Daily Report

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FBIS-EEU-93-160 *20 August 1993*

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Geneva Peace Talks Adjourn Until 30 Aug

AU2008131493 Paris AFP in English 1255 GMT 20 Aug 93

[Text] Geneva, August 20 (AFP)—Mediators on Friday [20 August] presented a draft package agreement for Bosnia-Herzegovina, including a proposed map for its ethnic division, and adjourned the peace talks for 10 days.

Conference spokesman John Mills said the adjournment would allow the warring parties time to examine the proposals and consult back home before what he called a "final" meeting on August 30.

'New Proposal' Possible

AU1908204293 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Report by Natasa Ojdanic]

[Text] Over four hours of constant discussion about the maps have yielded no concrete results. At around 1130 the six delegation heads began solving the five controversial territorial issues: Mostar, Brcko, Bihac, the eastern enclaves, and central Bosnia. Or, to put it more succinctly, the Croat and Muslim delegations spent the morning in accusing each other of war crimes and the violation of humanitarian and international law in Mostar. There are no [words indistinct] in Geneva regarding how much has been accomplished in the work on the maps. The conference cochairmen's spokesman John Mills said, during a short briefing, that Owen and Stoltenberg would keep the negotiators [in Geneva] until a solution is reached.

After a half-hour break, the talks resumed at 1700. In the discussion about eastern and central Bosnia-Herzegovina, things have not budged an inch. It is unofficially assessed that the cochairmen might come up with a new proposal. It has been explained that this will not be a (?new) plan, but an attempt at reaching a compromise that would mean that certain changes would be made in the existing Serbo-Croat map. This would enlarge the Muslim territory from 30 percent to some 31 to 32 percent.

During the break, the leader of the Bosnian Muslims, Alija Izetbegovic held a press conference at which he presented his eight new conditions. However, he pointed out that these are not new conditions for his remaining at the conference, but, he explained, for a successful conducting of the negotiations. Namely, the leader of the Bosnian Muslims is demanding the lifting of the Sarajevo siege, that is, the removal of Serb artillery from the surrounding mountains. Moreover, he wants Mostar declared a protected area and he wants the Serbs and Croats in Bosnia to renounce their demands to have municipalities with a majority Muslim population in their republics. It is interesting that this time, Izetbegovic broached the subject of Sandzak. He asked that the Bosnian minority should have the same status as the Serbs in Croatia. The leader of the Bosnian Muslims doubts that a peace package can be signed soon, and he stresses that he is a pessimist in this respect.

Izetbegovic Sets Eight Demands

LD1908190993 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1841 GMT 19 Aug 93

["Pool" item]

[Text] Geneva, August 19 (TANJUG)—Bosnian Muslim leader Alija Izetbegovic on Thursday [19 August] said he would set eight conditions at the afternoon resumption of the Geneva peace talks on Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Izetbegovic told a news conference during a break in the talks he would demand the lifting of the siege of Sarajevo, which he said would imply the removal of the artillery of Bosnian Serbs from hills around Sarajevo and the opening of the roads in and out of the city.

U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) spokesman in Sarajevo Barry Frewer recently said that the city was not held under siege by Bosnian Serbs but was only encircled by them.

Bosnian Serbs have an endless number of times called for the opening of roads to humanitarian convoys and the free movement of civilians in and out of Sarajevo but the Muslim side has prevented the realization of those initiatives.

Izetbegovic said he would demand not only the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 836, which proclaimed six Muslim enclaves in Bosnia-Herzegovina 'safe areas,' but also that the town of Mostar be added to the list. Mostar is the stage of the fiercest mutual clashes between Muslims and Croats.

However, U.N. Security Council Resolution 836 calls not only for the deployment of U.N. peacekeepers in the 'safe areas' but also for the demilitarization of those areas, which the Muslim side has reiected to carry out.

The Bosnian Muslim leader said one of the eight conditions he would set would be for UNPROFOR and international humanitarian organizations to open the way into Mostar and for the U.N. peacekeepers to guarantee safe transport of humanitarian aid.

Izetbegovic said he would insist that the Serbian and Croatian sides in the talks renounce their demands that their future republics in the union of Bosnia-Herzegovina include municipalities in which Muslims are a majority. The Bosnian Muslim leader did not specify which municipalites he had in mind.

Although he conceded that Bosnian Serbs had for the most part withdrawn from mounts Igman and Bjalasnica, Izetbegovic said the withdrawal of Bosnian Serbs from the two mountains near Sarajevo would also be among his conditions.

Izetbegovic quite unexpectedly said he would demand that the Muslim minority in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, i.e. the Raska region, get the same status as Serbs in Croatia.

Serbs in Croatia have the status of a national minority.

Lastly, Izetbegovic said he would demand of the international community guarantees for the implementation of the agreement, including guarantees for the inviolability of the external and internal borders of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Asked about progress in the talks on the maps. i.e. the definition of the borders of the three ethnic republics (Muslim, Serbian and Croatian) in the future union of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Izetbegovic said the issue of eastern Bosnia had not been resolved at all, the Muslims' access to the River Sava in the north of Bosnia-Herzegovina was not disputed, and the Muslim republic's access to the Adriatic Sea was currently discussed.

Izetbegovic insists that practically all of eastern Bosnia be made part of the future Muslim republic, including the municipalities where Serbs make up a majority, which the delegation of Bosnian Serbs has rejected.

Tudjman on 'Difficult, Tense' Talks

LD2008000093 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 2200 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] The negotiations on the future of Bosnia-Herzegovina went on in Geneva all day. In addition to members of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Presidency and the cochairmen of the international conference, the talks were also attended by the presidents of Croatia, Serbia, and Montenegro, Franjo Tudjman, Slobodan Milosevic, and Momir Bulatovic respectively. Maps of Bosnia-Herzegovina were discussed.

Asked to describe the negotiations, President Tudjman said among other things:

[Begin Tudjman recording] Difficult. Tense. It could be said that the three sides do not have the same approach to the talks. Of course, the Croats are as usual ready to reach a political solution. It is interesting that the Serbs are at the moment interested in reaching a political solution as well. Obviously, the situation is such that it forces them to that. However, as usual again, Mr. Izetbegovic is constantly coming up with new demands.

Lord Owen and Stoltenberg, cochairmen of the conference, are cautiously optimistic, primarily because it was also said that a political solution, if reached, can bring not only an end to the war, but also the easing or lifting of the sanctions imposed against Serbia and Yugoslavia. At this proposal, I said that we are of course interested in ending the war as soon as possible and reaching a political solution. But concerning the sanctions, it should be borne in mind that Serbia and their Yugoslavia are in a certain way continuing the aggression against Croatia because Serb paramilitary formations in the UN protected areas [UNPA] [in Croatia] are still being supplied with arms and even volunteers from Serbia. We are also in possession of information that there are members of the Banja Luka Corps in Croatia. I said that I did not know whether this is happening with the knowledge of the president of the Serb Republic in Bosnia, Karadzic, or Milosevic. They said that this is not what is happening.

Therefore, from the Croatian viewpoint, this aggression continues, so it would be impossible to talk about an end to this aggression and a final resolution to the overall crisis in former Yugoslavia without having these issues addressed as envisaged by the Security Council resolutions pertaining to the UNPA zones in Croatia. Namely, the Serb question in Croatia should be resolved through the reintegration of all these UNPA zones into the territorial integrity of the Croatian state.

This issue was discussed at the roundtable, as well as in the course of a separate meeting when President Milosevic emphatically urged the Knin Serbs to sign a cease-fire agreement and voiced support for the implementation of Resolution 847 which calls for the opening of thoroughfares, oil pipelines, transmission lines, and so forth. Therefore, he genuinely came out in favor of a political resolution in Croatia. I can even go so far as to say that in Serbia, as a result of this difficult economic situation, they are becoming aware of the fact we had mentioned in mutual talks that the creation of preconditions for peace in this part of southeastern Europe, the Balkans, necessitates the resolving of all contradictions in the relations between the Serbian and Croatian nations. I believe that the people in the highest positions of authority in Belgrade are aware of this as well. [end recording]

Talks Stall Over Enclaves

LD1908144093 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1341 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Geneva, 19 Aug (TANJUG)—Bosnian Muslims leader Alija Izetbegovic has not given up on the demand to incorporate eastern Bosnia into a Muslim republic. TANJUG has learnt from well-informed sources of the delegations in Geneva.

As has been learnt, during this morning's discussion of maps, Izetbegovic adhered to his stand that eastern Bosnia and Brcko should belong to a future Muslim state, which the Serb side has refused.

As has been indicated, in an attempt to prevent a possible breakdown of talks, the cochairmen of the international conference on Yugoslavia will offer their proposal to solve the dispute. It has been explained that this is not a new proposal, but the Serb-Croat initiative for the territorial division of Bosnia-Herzegovina with certain corrections. Namely, the Serb side is ready to make some territorial concessions, whereby Owen and Stoltenberg are trying to increase the area of the future Muslim republic in Bosnia-Herzegovina from 30 to 31 or 32 percent.

Following a short break, the heads of the six delegations returned to the negotiating table at 1430. Owen and Stoltenberg might table the new proposal this afternoon.

The announcement by Izetbegovic's spokesman that the leader of the Bosnian Muslims will hold a news conference at 1630 today has created confusion in journalistic circles. Many saw the announcement as a signal that Izetbegovic will withdraw from the negotiations.

Owen Urges Flexibility

LD2008131093 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1241 GMT 20 Aug 93

["Pool" item]

[Text] Geneva, Aug 20 (TANJUG)—The leaders of Bosnian Serbs, Croats and Moslems resumed on Friday morning [20 August] their discussions on a final territorial demarcation through mediation by the presidents of Serbia, Montenegro and Croatia and the two cochairmen of the international conference on the former Yugoslavia.

Diplomatic sources in Geneva question the possibility of agreement being reached on the maps which have been the most difficult problem throughout the negotiations on Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Lord Owen did not share the optimism expressed by Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic late on Thursday night that considerable progress had been made on the question of maps. Owen said he could not be quite sure that was the case.

Lord Owen, whose plan drafted jointly with Cyrus Vance was rejected, stressed the need for more flexibility on all three sides in order to reach a final agreement today. Although he did not deny that some progress was made on Thursday in discussions on the maps, Owen saw as an aggravating circumstance that "each of them wants to keep more territory than is compatible with the others' demands."

Owen believes that the whole Moslem territory is a problem, although he insisted that it was wrongly thought that the Moslem republic was an isolated enclave. For instance, the Serb and the Croat sides on Thursday made considerable concessions to Moslems.

Izetbegovic is expected to review on Friday an offer correcting the Serb-Croat initiative in its section on the maps and to state his position on it.

Owen doubted that anything could be signed in Geneva on Friday and announced that representatives of the three warring sides would present the final version of the map to their respective parliaments. According to him, the crucial thing is whether the absence from Geneva will really be used for settling the problem or the warring sides will continue the war. In this context Owen recalled the fierce fighting between Croats and Moslems in Gornji Vakuf and other towns in central Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The summit meeting was preceded by separate talks of the cochairmen with Alija Izetbegovic and Mate Boban. In the meantime, the new U.S. peace mediator, Ambassador Charles Redman had talks with the Bosnian Croat and Moslem leaders.

A meeting between Redman and Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic is scheduled for later today.

'Exceptionally Hard Bargaining'

AU1908191093 Belgrade RTB Television Network in Serbo-Croatian 1730 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Report by Dusan Cukic]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Upon arrival at the Palace of Nations, Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic held brief consultations with the representatives of the republic of Srpska. He was also greeted by Lord Owen. The first meeting—which was attended by [Bosnian Serb leader] Radovan Karadzic, [Bosnian Croat] Mate Boban, and [Bosnian President] Alija Izetbegovic—lasted just over an hour and was resumed after a short break. The other members of the delegations then joined the meeting. The final partition of the former Bosnia-Herzegovina was the topic of discussion, therefore, the possibility of reaching an agreement on lasting peace.

We have learned that all the sides submitted their demands, and they are currently being discussed. It is claimed that the conference cochairmen have also submitted a proposal according to which the Muslims would get as much as 32 percent of the territory. This is 2 percent more than had been agreed on earlier between the Serbs and Croats. However, this is considerably less than what the Muslims have been demanding in the latest versions of their demands.

Late this afternoon, Alija Izetbegovic's representative distributed to the journalists no less than nine proposals—he particularly stressed that these were only proposals—for a successful completion of the Geneva conference. Among other things, this document demands that all the municipalities that have a Muslim population should be part of the future Muslim republic, that international observers are sent to Mostar, Capljina, and other places in Herzegovina, that Croatia stops expelling refugees. The Muslims are even demanding that—so they say—the Muslim minority in Sandzak should have the same status as the Serbs in Croatia.

Therefore, Geneva is the scene of some exceptionally hard bargaining, which, despite everything, should hopefully contribute to the cessation of hostilities in the former Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Tudjman, Milosevic Hold Meeting

LD1908181193 Zagreb HTV Television in Serbo-Croatian 1730 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Video report by correspondent Mirko Galic from Geneva]

[Excerpts] President Tudjman, his adviser for national security Hrvoje Sarinic, and members of the Croatian delegation at the Geneva talks did not promise a lot at Geneva airport when they said: There is always an end to everything. [passage omitted]

President Tudjman today held a special meeting with Serbian President Milosevic. As has already been learned, the Serbian side promised to exert influence on the Serbs in Knin to accept a cease-fire agreement, and also to solve all problems in negotiations with the Croatian authorities. Croatia is interested in the normalization of relations inside Croatia, and also between Croatia and Serbia. It is not enough to solve the problem of Bosnia; in order to restore peace in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, problems in Croatia must also be solved. The Croatian president therefore requested at the conference that the lifting of the sanctions against Serbia should be conditioned with an overall solution, i.e., that peace in Bosnia should be linked with peace in Croatia.

The talks will probably be resumed tomorrow with the same participants. This is the initial plan of Owen and Stoltenberg.

Butrus-Ghali, FRY Minister Discuss UN Sanctions

LD1908215493 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2042 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Excerpts] Washington, 19 Aug (TANJUG)—In New york today, UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali received Milorad Unkovic, the federal Yugoslav minister for economic relations with foreign countries. During their lengthy talks Unkovic raised the issues that our prime minister, Radoje Kontic, conveyed to the secretary general and the Security Council chairperson, Mrs. Madeleine Albright, namely, the lifting of the sanctions and restrictions on the import of humanitarian goods to Yugoslavia.

Unkovic informed Butrus-Ghali about the request by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to be allowed to import gas, heating fuel, agricultural machinery, medicines and raw material for the production of medicines, which would be partly paid for by our exports under the supervision of an adequate control mechanism. [passage omitted]

At the end of the talks Butrus-Ghali noted that a decision by the federal government to allow the CSCE mission to return to Yugoslavia would be "particularly welcomed" in the United Nations.

UNHCR: Bosnia Aid Money Will Run Out Within Weeks

AU1908170093 Paris AFP in English 1644 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Geneva, Aug 19 (AFP)—Financial resources to cover humanitarian needs in Bosnia-Herzegovina will run out by early October, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees warned Thursday [19 August], adding that the situation would become dramatic by winter unless a peace settlement was rapidly reached.

"The clock is ticking," UNHCR spokesman Ron Redmond said, "if we don't get funding soon, some programs will have to be curtailed severely and some even abandoned."

The agency, which coordinates all aid to Bosnia, had only 162.8 million dollars left, but needed 420 million to cover humanitarian needs until the end of the year.

Among projects that would have to be cut were "truck fleet operations" for transporting aid, delivery of seeds for autumn planting, and "programs for community services."

Other services affected would be "shelters projects" for displaced people, water and sanitation, medical kits for half a millon refugees in Serbia and Montenegro and "grants to host families" housing refugees.

Diplomats said the population of Sarajevo and other besieged cities would have trouble surviving another winter if the conflict went on. "People have already suffered so much privation that their bodies won't be able to cope with a second winter without electricity, heating and food," one western diplomat said.

They said western nations were growing more and more tired of paying for the increasingly heavy aid and peacekeeping costs.

British Defense Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said Thursday that Britain did not intend to send additional troops to Bosnia. He said the large contributors were doing enough already and that the United Nations should now turn to the majority of its 180 member countries who had made no contribution so far.

Macedonia's Passport Controls Seen as 'New Blockade'

AU1908110793 Tirana ATA in English 0809 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Tirana, August 19 (ATA)—Beginning with August 23, the Kosovo-Macedonia border will be passed only by persons provided with passports, a report from Pristina says. This decision of the Macedonian Government will cause great difficulties to Albanians in Kosovo and Macedonia as well as in other Albanian ethnic territories, because it will be a new blockade in the communication among them.

A report of the Democratic League of Kosovo says that the decision on passports in the Kosova-Macedonia border will have many consequences for the Albanians of Kosovo. The report says that the Serbian administration, which is actually dominating in Kosovo, does not take into consideration the travelling papers of many Albanians, under various pretexts. In this way, Kosovo will face the severest and most difficult blockade, it will be prohibited a normal communication with Skopje and other cities with traditional historical relations. According to the report, it is likely that officials of Macedonia may consider the situation reasonably and the border might be less strict in the interests of both sides.

Kelmendi, Vienna Municipal Delegation Discuss Cooperation

AU1908154593 Tirana ATA in English 1011 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Tirana, August 19 (ATA)—A delegation from the city government of Vienna, Austria, led by the executive chief of the Vienna City Administration, Prof. Dr. Josefh Bandiumo [name as received], recently paid a two-day visit to Albania at the invitation of the Municipality of Tirana. During its stay in Tirana, the Austrian delegation had talks with the mayor of Tirana, Mr. Sali Kelmendi, and the two sides exchanged views on further cooperation between Tirana and Vienna. They discussed in particular problems related to public services, introduction of data processing in some of the sections of the Tirana city government, and the possibility of connecting the municipal computer system with the data processing center in Tirana. Dr. Bandiumo promised technical assistance for the Municipality of Tirana and material assistance for the medical, education, and public service sectors.

Belgian Delegation Promises Investments

AU1908154393 Tirana ATA in English 1008 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Tirana, August 19 (ATA)—A delegation of the Chamber of Commerce of Belgium is on its third visit to Albania. The president of the chamber, Mr. Mark Fight, said that "now we are in the final stages of various agreements in tourism, import-export, construction of textile factories, investments in industry and transportation. We have also promised the Albanian Ministry of Education some scholarships for specialized training in the fields of business and tourism." He said further that "we shall invest 4 billion dollars in Albania. By the end of October 1993, we project that 150 thousand dollars will be invested and 800 Albanians will be employed."

Trial of Former Premier Ahmeti, Bank Officials Continues

AU1908154193 Tirana ATA in English 0814 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Tirana, August 19 (ATA)—The trial of Vilson Ahmeti, Agron Saliu, and Agim Tartari, who are accused of abuse of office and of causing the loss of 1.6 million dollars for the state, continues in Tirana.

Yesterday's session began with the testimony of Ardin Hullani, foreign relations director in the Albanian Bank; Kristaq Luniku, deputy governor of the bank; and Liljana Nane, chief of Exchange Department in the Albanian Trade Bank.

Later, the court heard testimony from the governor general of the Albanian Bank, Mr. Ilir Hoti.

Cabinet Approves Bilateral Agreements, Views Gypsy Problems

AU1908185693 Sofia BTA in English 1501 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Sofia, August 19 (BTA)—At today's regular meeting the cabinet approved the composition of Bulgaria's delegation to the 48th session of the United Nations General Assembly opening in New York on September 21. The delegation will be headed by Minister of Foreign Affairs Stanislav Daskalov.

The government's press service informed that the Bulgarian delegation would pay attention to current problems, the solution of which could strengthen international security and help resolve regional conflicts. The delegation will lay stress on Bulgaria's immediate interests and problems—its integration into the world economic system, strengthening of its national security, peace, good-neighbourliness and cooperation in the Balkans, and elimination of the consequences of the sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro.

The cabinet decided to propose to the National Assembly to ratify the agreement signed by Bulgaria and the European Investment Bank in Luxembourg on July 16, 1993. Under the agreement, Bulgaria will receive a loan of ecu [European currency units] 30 million for investment in small and medium-size enterprises. Applicants will be granted loans upon presentation of specific projects only. The loan is partitioned into 15 tranches. It is repayable from 1999 to 2008.

The cabinet approved the intergovernmental agreement on trade and economic cooperation signed by Bulgaria and Kazakhstan in Almaty on July 30, 1993. It is a frame agreement treating trade and economic cooperation in its long-term aspect.

The cabinet endorsed the protocol on trade and economic relations signed by the Governments of Bulgaria and the Russian Federation in Moscow on July 19, 1993.

The cabinet approved a draft agreement on trade and payments between the Governments of Bulgaria and Slovakia authorizing the minister of trade to act as Bulgaria's chief negotiator and to sign the agreement. The only objection sustained was the one raised by Minister of Foreign Affairs Stanislav Daskalov, who suggested to amend the draft agreement making it valid for indefinite time instead for 5 years as initially specified.

The cabinet endorsed three projects in the sphere of transport which would be proposed to Japan for financing through the Japanese Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund. The projects envisage the construction of a tunnel under Shipka Peak in the Balkan range, purchase of new tankers for the Bulgarian marine and reconstruction of the country's road network.

At the cabinet's closed meeting, Minister of the Interior Viktor Mikhaylov presented a report on the grave condition of the Gypsy community in the Municipality of Muglish near Stara Zagora (southern Bulgaria), Council of Ministers' spokesperson Raycho Raykov said. Unemployment in the municipality is more than 90 percent. The exhausted social welfare funds make those people take desperate steps, including the commitment of crimes, Mr. Raykov added. The cabinet decided that a Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs commission would have to go there to familiarize itself with the situation on the spot. The commission is to present the government a project for helping the Gypsy community in Muglish, notwithstanding the tight national budget, the Council of Ministers' spokesperson said.

Commentary Considers Purpose of Woolsey's Moscow Visit

AU1908124993 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 14 Aug 93 p 8

[Commentary by Georgi Todorchev: "Was James Woolsey's Mission to Moscow Merely Funeral?"]

[Text] One of the favorite sayings of former CIA Director William Casey was: "It is the most difficult thing in the world to prove the obvious."

He was right. For example, how can one prove that James Woolsey, Casey's successor in this high post, visited Moscow recently with the principal mission of finding out what Boris Yeltsin's fate was likely to be?

The evil that befell the American James Bond in Georgia—the unexpected murder of a CIA agent in the car of Eduard Shevardnadze's security chief—in fact turned out to be a blessing in that it provided even deeper cover for Woolsey's main assignment: to make a personal diagnosis of Boris Yeltsin's political and physical state of health and to make a direct on-the-spot assessment of the risk of the Russian president being overthrown in the conditions of the chaotic monetary reform, even sharper confrontation with parliament, armed clashes and heavy casualties on the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan, dismissals and resignations of top military figures, the acute dispute over Sevastopol and the Black Sea Fleet, new explosions of separatism, and so on, and so forth....

The contacts between the U.S. and Russian intelligence communities are a long-established fact, so that only the innocent can imagine that the purpose of the chiefs of the respective secret departments, James Woolsey and Yevgeniy Primakov, was to continue the coordination already established in the fields of combating international terrorism, narcotics trafficking, and the mafias. Having investing all their political hopes, financial credits, and moral support in the person of Boris Yeltsin, the West as a whole and the United States in particular are painfully interested in the Russian president's state of health, stances, and prospects. Staking everything on him alone, Washington has not spread its bets in other political circles of the collapsing Russian Federation. The presence of the convenient president in Moscow is of great importance as regards future moves in U.S. foreign and military policy, not only in relation to the dangerously vibrating Russian conglomerate, but also

with respect to the Middle East, Iraq, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Somalia, and the United Nations. It was no accident that last autumn James Woolsey's predecessor Robert Gates was sent to Russia with a similar mission—to calculate Yeltsin's chances in a situation that was just as critical. On that occasion too, superficial consumers of foreign news were served up the standard report that Gates went to coordinate common problems connected with combating banditry, smuggling, and so on. Incidentally, it is clear to everyone that James Woolsey's unexpected visit to Bulgaria at the beginning of June was not principally concerned with such conventional aims either, but was to enable him to personally evaluate Bulgaria's cardinal, critical political position, the disposition of forces, and the directions and forms of the offensive against the Bulgarian president, as well as possible actions that our country might undertake in connection with the civil war in the former Yugoslavia and the U.S. and Western plans in this respect.

Avid news lovers can most easily find out the locations of the most sensitive spots in the world by following the trips and visits of the CIA chief, a strategic analyst of the highest order, an expert on nuclear and space weapons, and the supervisor of secret operations under six U.S. presidents, who himself has expressed his conviction that "the world that is taking shape before our eyes... is becoming increasingly like an even more deadly version of the old world that existed prior to 1914." Thank God, now at least it is easier to follow James Woolsey's voyages: He does not need to disguise himself with a beard and a false passport, as William Casey did on occasion during his secret visits to Afghanistan, Grenada, Nicaragua, and Angola to issue instructions on setting up the Irangate network.

Dimitrov Views SDS Political Situation

AU1908193593 Sofia DEMOKRATSIYA in Bulgarian 16 Aug 93 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Filip Dimitrov, chairman of the National Coordinating Council of the Union of Democratic Forces, SDS, by Panayot Denev; date and place not given: "Committing People to Political Work—This Is Union of Democratic Forces' Problem"]

[Text] [Denev] Your hunger for power has already become a sinister legend in the pro-president and pro-government press. Let us finally clarify this issue in DEMOKRATSIYA's pages. Are you really hungry for power? Actually, what power did you have in the past and do you have now?

[Dimitrov] People most often accuse those close to them of coveting what they themselves covet. The prerogatives of the chairman of the National Coordinating Council are not too many, and this sometimes prevents him from doing his job. However, there is the "moral power." Every organization is also based on that power. It is true that in 1991 I very directly posed to the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS] the question of the strong power. I shall pose this question again. We already saw three governments which had their hands tied. Popov's government was a weak one, because it was dominated by the Communists, despite the fact that they had lost all credit by that time. Perhaps, Berov's government does not want to do anything else but serve those who support it. However, even if it wanted to do something it could have done nothing because the parliament behind this government has already turned into an absurdity. My government also was hindered in every way, unfortunately, even by our own people. When they understood that we nevertheless would act, they toppled us. The future democratic government will need a stable majority which will support it. The Bulgarian voters must understand this once and for all, and stop wasting their votes. It is an illusion to think that democracy means that everyone could hinder you. Only institutions to which powers have been delegated are stable. The future government and prime minister, regardless of who he is, will have great responsibilities. Consequently, they must enjoy the categorical support of their political party and parliamentary faction.

[Denev] Do you not have the feeling that you and the SDS missed the moment at which you could seize the economic power?

[Dimitrov] First of all, the SDS did not set for itself the goal of seizing the economic power. The SDS wanted to control the spheres for which the state is responsible. Obviously, ambitions such as those of the current government, for instance the ambition to transfer the Bulgarian Army to the First Private Bank and thus allow the Army to delay or accelerate paying military wages, is something that has not been and will not be our goal.

However, during the tenure of the SDS government the attempt to place all raging economic groups under firm control encountered a fierce resistance, and precisely then the action to topple the SDS government began.

[Denev] Could the SDS win the parliamentary elections—now or in a few months—without really controlling the country's economy? The prevailing opinion among broad social circles is that the coalition does not have this control, and it already is too late to gain it.

[Dimitrov] Obviously, it is very difficult to win elections without money. On the other hand, we are far from the idea that the state economy must serve the interests of a political force. Please do not mistake us for the Communist Party. The state must control the country's economy only on anything related to the state sector of that economy. As far as the private sector is concerned—only the law should control this part of the country's economy. We certainly will have economic and financial difficulties, but perhaps the time has come for many people to understand that without the SDS success in the elections, their possibilities will also be limited.

[Denev] You mean their possibilities to live better?

[Dimitrov] Yes! I hope that both the citizens who see how their pockets are being emptied as a result of this government's economic policy, and all those who receive their property back through restitution, will understand this. They should think whether they want to lose all this by NOT supporting the SDS. You already noticed the attempts to block the land reform and restitution. Everyone should understand what could happen if those retrograde forces which govern Bulgaria at present would prevail.

[Denev] Recently several newspapers published your interviews and statements, which perhaps did not interpret your thoughts in a precise manner. Statements such as the following were published: The SDS will not negotiate with anyone! The SDS does not have any real opponents! I wish there were fewer parties within the SDS! Could you please clarify those statements for DEMOKRATSIYA?

[Dimitrov] The formula "the SDS will not negotiate with anyone" is incorrect. We are prepared to negotiate with all active political formations, with which there is a basis for negotiations. Well, I suppose we also could negotiate with the representatives of the Communist Party, despite the fact that there the chances to reach an agreement are very limited. However, we could negotiate even with them on certain specific issues, because they are an actually existing political power. However, we cannot negotiate with phantoms and shadows from the kingdom of darkness. The phrase which appeared as a headline in a newspaper—"the SDS has no real political opponents"—was taken out of context. What I meant was that the real political opponents of the SDS are relatively weak, and therefore they try to transfer the political confrontation to the coalition itself. "I wish there were fewer parties within the SDS"—this is something that I have always said and stressed that I consider this a step toward consolidating the SDS, despite the fact that I realize how difficult this will be. In any event, 17 parties within the SDS really represents an unrealistic configuration. This way it is difficult for the SDS to adopt decisions.

[Denev] What are the conditions of the SDS National Coordinating Council for initiating a contact with the leaders of the Movement for Rights and Freedoms [DPS] or the president of the Republic? Is it really possible to maintain contacts with those people?

[Dimitrov] I ask myself, why did you not add Dr. Trenchev to those names? At present Ahmed Dogan's group rules Bulgaria. This government was established with the mandate of the DPS, and the DPS controls it. In this sense, the responsibility for destroying the country naturally also belongs to Mr. Dogan and his people. On the other hand, the president was the inspirer and architect of this Constitution; thus what I said about Dogan and his people also applies to him.

Trenchev and his group were the strike force of the action related to toppling the SDS government. I could not imagine what they would want to discuss with us. If they do not like what they did—very well, let them change it. Afterward we could understand where they stand.

[Denev] However, if they nevertheless seek contact with the SDS National Coordinating Council?

[Dimitrov] I already said several times in a different context that we have the decisions of the SDS Fifth National Conference, according to which we could not even think of seeking agreements and understanding as long as this parliament exists, because we think that it has exhausted its possibilities. Thus, against the existing background, I do not see what we could talk about. If, nevertheless, a proposal comes, we will discuss it.

[Denev] Is it true that the leaders of the SDS National Coordinating Council suffer from a serious shortage of useful people? What problems will you have tomorrow if the need arises to compose election lists?

[Dimitrov] I think that the greater problem will be to weed out people rather than experience a shortage. I would like to stress something very important: The SDS has enough people. The problem is to commit them to political activity. This is a matter of organizations, and in the final analysis—of responsibility. In order to accept the responsibility they must be given certain prerogatives and rights, and there must be a factor that would give them those rights and prerogatives. When this process is set in motion we will have no problems with the people. It is another issue that so far this process has been rather awkward, because the problem of delegating rights in such a broad coalition always represents something very complex from the procedural point of view.

[Denev] Do you believe that history repeats itself within brief periods of time? Do you think it is possible that the events that took place last fall in our political life, could repeat this coming fall?

[Dimitrov] If you are asking me whether I think that this government could fall, my answer is, yes, I think it could fall. However, it is very doubtful whether this will be a precise repetition of last year's events. Last fall we witnessed an organization of all forces which opposed the changes in order to hinder us and turn the country back, at a very critical moment for Bulgaria. This fall people afraid of the responsibility for the recent calamities, that accumulates on their shoulders, could try to get rid of this burden and sacrifice the government which they themselves created. The president is one of those people.

[Denev] What question are you asked most at meetings with people throughout the country?

[Dimitrov] I am mostly asked how we could guarantee that the same people will not appear again in the next parliament and government, and thus foil the SDS cause. Naturally, there is no 100 percent guarantee. However, according to my information, there will be no planted people in the strict sense of this word. On the other hand we will not be committed to forces within the SDS as the Alternative Social Liberal Party and the Podkrepa Labor Confederation

in the past, which succeeded in placing delegates to the 14th Bulgarian Communist Party Congress on our lists. Now there is no such force as Podkrepa in the past. This is an organization which obviously was controlled from outside. First—many people believed in it, and second—it claimed that it has a great possibility to influence the SDS. Its pressure resulted in the parliament membership of 21 of the 23 delegates, who supported Mr. Berov's cabinet. Avoiding a mentor such as Podkrepa will be beneficial. Naturally, we also must remember something else. We live in a period of a great change. During this change not everyone is aware of the traditions and rules. It is natural that people who succumb to temptation and people with a weak character find their place in the ranks of the force that effects the change. We are not protected against this phenomenon. However, if everything else is fine, I think that we could reduce such phenomena to a minimum.

[Denev] A question that is repeated in dozens and hundreds of letters we receive at our editorial board: How do you think that out-of-term presidential elections could be effected in real practice?

[Dimitrov] There are only two ways of effecting new elections: Through toppling the cabinet and not forming a new one, or by the voluntary or organized dissolution of the parliament. Those are procedures that require much effort.

[Denev] Does the SDS have the possibility of influencing the processes that lead toward this goal?

[Dimitrov] The SDS could help in pushing things toward toppling the cabinet. Furthermore, with its behavior in the parliament the SDS could turn the very existence of this parliament into undesirable for those who support it. The SDS has such a possibility, but I cannot specify further. This is not a button that could be pressed at any moment.

[Denev] When it will be decided whether the SDS deputies will participate in the National Assembly sessions?

[Dimitrov] This will be discussed at the beginning of September when the parliamentary faction will meet.

[Denev] Who are the political opponents of the SDS and in what ways is it superior to them at the present situation?

[Dimitrov] The political opponents of the SDS are the forces that want to push the country back and stop the process of the reforms in anything related to creating the middle class. Those are people who could swallow only a certain kind of banana capitalism. Naturally, the Communist Party is the first among them. It tries to push the things back in the past and stop the reforms. Not very different from the Communist Party are all those satellite organizations which emerged around the parliament and try to exist outside it. Some of them claim to be a so-called center, although so far they were not able to present a centrist thesis or ideology, because the alternative is very clear: Either to progress forward or to return to the past. Our political opponents are more or less of the same kind, although they try to represent themselves as a great conglomerate of different formations. They all are alike—forces which try to pull the country toward a model of thinking which is close to the communist one.

[Denev] How will you rest this summer?

[Dimitrov] I will spends eight days at the St. Konstantin resort. Naturally, during that period I will meet with voters.

[Denev] Will you travel abroad?

[Dimitrov] Not now. A trip to the United States, probably in September, is being prepared.

[Denev] Thank you for this interview.

Official Denies Intention To Restore State Security

AU1908153493 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 14 Aug 93 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Major General Kosta Bogatsevski, chief secretary of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, by Vacho Radulov; place and date not given: "Interior Ministry Will Not Restore State Security Agents"]

[Text] [Radulov] General Bogatsevski, are there any grounds for fearing that the State Security will be revived?

[Bogatsevski] Only Jesus Christ arose again from the dead; the State Security is dead and buried, and so is its agent network. This is no exaggeration: There is simply no purpose for such a network, and no one for it to serve.

[Radulov] The professionals consider that the Interior Ministry order came too late, that without it the officers of the police and special services were working with their eyes blindfolded and their ears stopped up.

[Bogatsevski] That is true. The order superseded two ancient instructions of 1972—on the State Security employing operatives on a voluntary basis, and on the militia's work with employees not on its regular payroll. Moreover, the first instruction was not published. The order should have been published immediately after 10 November. I will never know what prevented [former interior minister] Sokolov from writing these 28 articles and publishing the order.

[Radulov] Why then are people criticizing you?

[Bogatsevski] Ask the critics. Article 6 of the Interior Ministry Act obliges us to issue the order; it brings the activities of the Interior Ministry into conformity with the Constitution.

[Radulov] Do you think that the attacks are due to a misunderstanding?

[Bogatsevski] Certainly, but some sly people are in a hurry to impose their own views concerning the order

before people can read it for themselves. This was the trick that was used in the old days to "prove" to us that the West was rotten. I believe that people will read the order and convince themselves that our critics are simply looking for something that is not there.

[Radulov] Nevertheless,...

[Bogatsevski] Look here, the order explains the principles of operation, the need for legality, the voluntary principle, and so on. The methods of recruitment and of introducing operatives in certain circles will be evolved according to a special instruction that is regarded as a state secret all over the world and is controlled solely by the prosecutor's office.

[Radulov] Criticisms have been made that you do not prohibit the recruitment of operatives in certain special groups, among politicians, scientific workers, and so on.

[Bogatsevski] Such a restriction would have some sense if no offenses were being committed in such circles, ranging from criminal acts and economic crimes to betrayal of our national interests.

[Radulov] Why does the prospective secret agent have to make an application, enclosing his curriculum vitae?

[Bogatsevski] That is nonsense. This is covered by Article 11 of the order, but employees not on the regular payroll who carry out their duties officially have an identification card, and in some cases carry weapons as well. The secret agent is something different; our cooperation with him is a state secret. We use him when we have no other way of combating a particular crime. Those who pretend that they cannot see the difference are trying to pass off the idea that we behave like inferior Josef Svejks. I make no comment on such dilettantes, but I will tell them that cooperation with citizens also arises in the context of the Code of Criminal Procedure, where such cooperation is also temporary and voluntary. A citizen may inform the Interior Ministry about a specific crime on which he has information, to assist the investigation. All over the world, this is regarded as showing a sense of civic duty, because it protects the public interest.

[Radulov] What other new features does the order contain?

[Bogatsevski] The principle of expediency is ruled out. Article 5 of the order explicitly states that the cooperation with the secret apparatus must be in accordance with the law. This means that the Interior Ministry can no longer serve short-term political interests, nor can it subserviently carry out the orders of small-time political crooks.

[Radulov] What has the Interior Ministry lost by not having this order, so important for the efficiency of its operations, at its disposal for almost three years?

[Bogatsevski] Our crime clearup rate has declined. Society has also been the loser, in my opinion, as regards guarantees that everything was in order in the sphere of the Interior Ministry's activities that is least subject to control. The order provides criteria for public control of the Interior Ministry in the most vulnerable area of its activities—working with secret agents. Now anyone can check whether the principles of legality, voluntarism, of protecting the employee, and ensuring he is fully informed regarding the secret activity that he carries out are being observed.

Demographic Statistics on Employment, Work Force Noted

AU1908142893 Sofia BTA in English 1141 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Sofia, August 19 (BTA)—At 41 percent the proportion of working men of the male population is higher than the respective proportion of working women (36.2 percent). The explanation lies in the age structure differences between the sexes and the fact that men work five years longer than women, Senior Research Associate Petko Bozhikov says in today's TRUD, quoting figures of the National Statistical Institute. According to him, this shows that if the age factor is eliminated, real employment is higher for women, which is not typical of countries with a market economy. 67.4 percent of the female labour force was in job in late 1992 as against 66.4 percent of the male labour force, the author says.

The transition from centrally planned to a market economy drastically changed the Bulgarians' economic activity, Mr. Bozhikov says. The sharp drop in employment from 4,625,000 on December 4, 1985, to 3,329,000 by December 4, 1992, can partly be put down to the general decrease in the population and its persistent ageing. The emerging private sector could not offset the considerable drop in employment in the public sector. The number of public sector employees went down from 4,072,000 in early 1990 to 2,479,000 in late 1992, a decrease by 1,593,000, the author says.

As a result, the employment rate (number of employed per 100 population) dropped from 51.7 per cent at the end of 1985 to 38.6 per cent at the end of 1992, a decrease by more than one-third for urban and rural populations, as well as for men and women. Employment is higher among the urban population and men. It ranges between limits determined by the sex and place of residence factor. Employment is highest for men in urban areas (43.3 percent) and lowest for women in rural areas (29.7 percent). Differences in the age structure of urban and rural population and of men and women largely account for these rates of employment.

Defense Ministry To Assume Destruction of Soviet Weapons

AU2008084893 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 18 Aug 93 p 3

["km"-signed report: "Even Missiles and Aerial Bombs Were Found in Ralsko"]

[Text] Prague—More than 600 pieces of unspent ammunition and almost 100 kg of handgun cartridges were collected in the former military zone of Ralsko in the first half of this year. That is not all, however, as more than 3,000 pieces of live ammunition and approximately 80 kg of infantry ammunition were found last year.

So far, only a single employee of the Interior Ministry—Major Vaclav Bilicky, who was transferred to the former military zone at his own request—has been collecting and destroying the unspent ammunition left behind by the Soviet Army in the former military complex. Prior to his transfer, Bilicky worked in Usti nad Labem as regional ordnance disposal expert. In a little less than two years, he found in Ralsko, among other things, 36 aerial bombs and 33 anti- tank and air defense missiles. "The Soviet Army also left here anti-tank and anti-personnel mines, and artillery and hand grenades," Major Bilicky said.

The live ammunition Major Bilicky destroys mostly at a special site, the so-called ordnance disposal pit. The most dangerous part of the job is, according to him, actually the transport of the ammunition to this pit.

As of 1 September, however, in Ralsko, and also in another former military complex, Mlada, the ordnance cleanup should be organized by the Ministry of Defense. Approximately 300 Army ordnance disposal experts should participate in a partial cleanup.

Military experts estimate that it will take the ordnance disposal experts at least four years to clean up the more than 250 square km of Ralsko territory. The entire operation will allegedly cost approximately 0.5 billion korunas. Major Bilicky pointed out that entering the Ralsko woods is particularly dangerous. He maintained that the unspent ammunition buried in the ground, or abandoned in various trenches, could explode at any time. Thus, for instance, a grenade exploded here as the Volhynia Czechs, who have been housed in the area, were burning the grass. "Live ammunition also injured one of the school children, who found a box of grenade launchers in the woods. The boy lost an eye and an arm," Major Bilicky stated.

Klaus Wants Changes in Payment Agreement With Slovakia

LD1808205793 Prague CTK in English 2006 GMT 18 Aug 93

[Text] Prague, August 18 (CTK)—The Czech Government will soon begin discussions on possible changes to the payment agreement with Slovakia, Czech Premier Vaclav Klaus announced after today's government session.

The dual bloc system does not make sense. Artificial movements from one to another are resulting, Klaus said, adding that the government intended to change the payment agreement by eliminating the dual bloc system and transferring all payments to one bloc.

The February 4 payment agreement between the Czech and Slovak Republics divided all assets and liabilities of both states into either the so-called old block, which includes all payment obligations arising prior to February 8 (the date of the Czechoslovak currency split), and the new block, which consists of all such obligations arising after this date. Old block payments are figured on the basis of a 1:1 parity between the Czech and Slovak crowns. New block payments are figured in European Currency Units (ECU).

Klaus said the reason for immediately starting talks on changing the payment agreement was the negative development of the balance in the new block. He added that the Czech Republic had hit the allowed maximum marginal credit of 130 million ECU and even exceeded it by 25.7 million ECU.

If both the Slovak Government and the Czech Government approve this, nothing will stand in the way of a changed payment agreement being implemented, Klaus stated. However, he refused to give a precise date when the changes should be made.

Klaus Does Not See GDP Stagnation as 'Failure'

AU1908195693 Prague TELEGRAF in Czech 18 Aug 93 pp 1, 3

[Interview with Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus by Viktor Krejci in the "Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus Replies to Questions from TELEGRAF Readers" column, place and date not given: "Most Economic Indicators Show a Trend Toward Growth"]

[Text] [Krejci] Mr. Prime Minister, Finance Minister Ivan Kocarnik said that the gross domestic product [GDP] would not grow 3 percent this year as the government foresaw in its original projections, but that it would stagnate at around 0 or minus 1 percent. Could you tell us anything about the causes of this development and why current indicators differ from the original prognosis? It is even being argued that this development demonstrates the government's failure. Questions to this effect have been sent to us by Mr. Tomas Krecek from Plzen and Mr. Roman Blazek from Kutna Hora.

[Klaus] First of all, I would like to say that we live in a world of very unclear statistical figures, in which plus/minus 2 percent is no measure. Insisting that we know precisely that economic growth in the first half of the year was minus 1 or plus 1 percent is therefore impossible, in my opinion.

Second: In fall 1992, the government forecast that the economy might grow by 1 to 3 percent [in 1993] in terms of GDP growth. At that time the government did not

foresee such a huge drop in trade between the Czech Republic and Slovakia because it assumed that a common currency would be maintained. When the currency split on 8 February, and mutual trade dropped as a result, it became clear that it would be entirely impossible to achieve this target, that is, growth of between 1 and 3 percent.

Third, I would like to say that the very last analyses show that, in the last month of the first half of the year, that is, in June, most indicators are preceded by the "plus" sign or are heading toward it. It is even conceivable that a GDP growth, though a very moderate one, occurred in the second quarter of 1993, and not a decline, as was the case in the first quarter and as I had expected for the second quarter as well. No one in the world can come up with an exact figure on the development of GDP for this year in its entirety, but it is obvious that the figure will be around zero and the question is whether it will be plus or minus 1 percent. At any rate, if we will end up somewhere around zero, then the government's estimate of fall 1992, when it was impossible to predict such a massive drop in Czech-Slovak trade, was actually very accurate and not very far from the reality. In this context I would like to draw everyone's attention to the fact that GDP growth in Germany will be minus 4.5 percent in 1993. Of course, this is nothing that should make us rejoice and it is not a victory, but we have to realize these things.

As for those who argue that this result represents our failure, I do not see anything of that sort. If the projection was plus 1 to plus 3 percent and the result will be 1, 0.5, or 0 percent, then it seems to me totally absurd to call it this year's failure.

Klaus Comments on Reduction in Administrative Districts

LD1908215593 Prague CTK in English 2034 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Prague, August 19 (CTK)—The existence of 75 administrative districts in their present form cannot continue, Czech Premier Vaclav Klaus said today after a meeting of specialists on the territorial administration of the Czech Republic.

However, he emphasised that the discussions had not reached a specific conclusion. A definite result should appear after the group's next meeting in two weeks.

Klaus said he believed another element in the state administration should be created, but without abolishing the present one. Our ideal solution, on which we all agree, is for the state administration to be divided thus: district-region-state, Klaus said. He expressed fears that during the transitional period there would be not a three-, but a four-tier system, and said that this period should be as short as possible.

He said that in the larger administrative units the powers of the state administration should be much stronger than local government.

Klaus also said our only real interest was to rationalise the state administration to such a degree as to make it maximally efficient and effective at the same time.

A large problem was finding an optimal level of local autonomy. A lot of people were interested in what went on at a local level and at a state one, he said. It was less probable that they were interested in some sort of intermediate level. This would lead to problems in determining the size of the intermediate level, which should be an autonomous body.

The best political solution would be if the state admitted that it was big enough to be divided into ten or fifteen administrative units. There was no need to pretend that the issue was predetermined by historical tradition or the economic situation, he commented.

Klaus Says Ministers Not Concerned About Press Monopolies

AU1908160393 Prague CTK in English 2020 GMT 17 Aug 93

[Text] Prague August 17 (CTK)—Czech cabinet ministers do not feel that there is a threat of one newspaper monopolies in some regions of the Czech Republic, Czech Premier Vaclav Klaus told journalists after today's cabinet meeting.

He said the ministers have not found the situation in the regional press to be extraordinary.

At their meeting today the cabinet members discussed materials on the situation in the regional press submitted by Minister for Economic Competition Stanislav Belehradek. On July 15 Belehradek voiced the view that it was necessary to define the amount of foreign capital participation in the Czech mass media as soon as possible, and on July 22 he said that this share should be a minority one, which means lower than 50 percent.

Klaus said that the problem lies in a bad assessment of the whole matter. He said that it was not possible to take into consideration merely the percentage of foreign capital participation in individual newspaper, but rather its share in the whole number of sold newspapers in this region. He said that such an assessment represents the correct method to discover whether or not a paper holds a monopoly position.

Klaus said that the government does not want to limit the input of foreign capital in any branch.

Zieleniec 'Determined' To Rid Ministry of StB Agents

AU1908201293 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 18 Aug 93 p 1

["tk"-signed report: "Minister Zieleniec Is Getting Rid of Former State Security Corps Agents"]

[Text] Prague— In an interview for MLADA FRONTA DNES, Minister of Foreign Affairs Josef Zieleniec (Civic Democratic Party) said that he was determined to get rid of agents of the former State Security Corps [StB] who still work in the diplomatic service of the Czech Republic.

Some time ago Zieleniec signed a decision, under which he himself will directly appoint all diplomats. The decision also places all present and new diplomats under the obligation to submit their certificates of screening [for past collaboration with the StB].

As early as January, after he came to head the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Zieleniec refused to retain some employees of the former federal ministry. "There was a well-founded suspicion that the people in question had collaborated with the StB," the minister said.

Zieleniec said that, in building the diplomatic service, he was using people whose abilities have been tested by their political activity after November [1989] as well as experts from academic life who intimately know the history and culture of the relevant country. The third possibility, according to Zieleniec, is to hire young people.

Zieleniec Comments on State of Diplomatic Services

AU1908201193 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 18 Aug 93 p 2

[Interview with Foreign Minister Josef Zieleniec by Tomas Klvana; place and date not given: "Appointing Ambassadors Needs the Consent of the Coalition"]

[Text] Prague—Foreign Minister Josef Zieleniec is tremendously satisfied with the work of young people who are employed in Czech diplomatic services. "There are enough people around me who completed their studies just when the revolution began, and maybe this is exactly why they want to participate in the building of the new country," the foreign minister said in an interview for MLADA FRONTA DNES.

[Klvana] Loyalty is an important trait of the diplomat. What kind of loyalty do you expect, in crisis moments, from former communist foreign minister Jaromir Johanes, for instance, who is leading our embassy in Turkey?

[Zieleniec] Mr. Johanes was appointed to his office by [former Foreign] Minister Jiri Dienstbier. We have to do something about it. It is simply impossible to arrange certain things within eight months. This matter is more general than the replacement of former State Security agents. On the other hand, I do not believe that it would be possible to raise accusations of lack of loyalty against anyone who worked at the ministry before 1989. The absolute majority of our people, irrespective of their political conviction, are identifying themselves with the sate. It is precisely the state who is represented abroad, our country, our national interests.... Those are values that are not easy to take light-heartedly. I am not saying, however, that we are not going to make changes.

[Klvana] When will our ambassadors to Rome and Budapest be appointed? We are badly lacking chiefs of missions there because of the CSFR's split.

[Zieleniec] It is not easy to find a candidate for a dignified representation of the state. Everyone has some curriculum vitae, and the curriculum vitae of a diplomat must meet criteria of high qualifications. We have to solve the examples you have mentioned by the end of the year.

[Klvana] How will the controversy regarding Viktoria Hradska's candidacy for ambassador to Budapest be solved?

[Zieleniec] I do not know about any controversy. Mr. Hradska won the competition conducted by my advisory body. It is I who proposes candidates for ambassadors, while taking several factors into account. Since it was impossible to reach consensus within the coalition, I have not proposed Dr. Hradska's candidacy in the government. Such cases are not exceptional, of course.

[Klvana] Have you made clear the jurisdiction problem which you had with the president and the prime minister?

[Zieleniec] It is a common problem, which is linked to the establishment of the state. Discussions on who is responsible for what are still ongoing. Each and every one of us, representing our country abroad, has his own role. However, this does not mean that there is nothing that could be improved. In a short period of time, I want to present a draft for establishment of the Foreign Policy Council to the government. Constitutional officials whose jurisdiction involves foreign policy should become members of this council. I hope that this will be a step forward in the sphere which is so important to our new state.

Commander Apologizes for Army's Role in Aug 1969 Events

LD1908212793 Prague CTK in English 2008 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Prague, August 19 (CTK)—Czech Army chief of general staff Brigadier General Jiri Nekvasil today apologised to Czech citizens on behalf of the general staff for the participation of the Czechoslovak People's Army

(CSLA) in the suppression of demonstrations during the first anniversary of the events of August 1969.

In a statement handed to CTK he says that with the agreement of the Czech defence minister, secret documents on the activities of the Army and its suppression of the Democratic Resistance Movement in August 1969 will be declassified on August 20.

I would like to apologise first of all to the citizens of Prague, Zlin, and other cities of the republic for army actions prepared by the general staff, Nekvasil says.

On the first anniversary of Czechoslovakia's invasion by the armies of the five states of the Warsaw Pact, four young men were shot dead during demonstrations in Prague and Brno, South Moravia. barricades and tanks reappeared on the streets.

Due to the interference of the Army, the civic security service and the people's militia (an armed force of the former Czechoslovak Communist Party) during protest demonstrations in 1969, two people were killed and several dozens wounded in Prague, and 815, mostly young, were detained, among them 66 foreigners. Similar demonstrations also took place in Brno, the administrative centre of South Moravia, suppressed by the Army, the civic security service and the people's militia. Two people were killed.

It is necessary to say openly that the Army, according to the assessment of the former leadership, was the main stabilising factor for strengthening the political power of the KSC [Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia], and it therefore played an important role in the internal power struggle to the benefit of the so-called normalisers. The use of the CSLA for internal purposes in connection with the happenings which accompanied the first anniversary of the August 1968 events represented the abuse of the Army and its discrediting among the democratic public, says the statement.

Nekvasil says that since November 1989 the Czech public has received no or only skimpy answers to the questions connected with the use or misuse of troops against the demonstrations of citizens disagreeing with the occupation of Czechoslovakia. I want to prevent possible rumours, guesses and accusations. There are things which ought to be said and explained. This is in the interest of our new Czech Army, its relationship with the public, the citizenry and the rising democratic society, Nekvasil stresses.

He says that a total of 19,495 people, 310 tanks, 200 armed vehicles, and 2,309 machines, including units of artillery, anti-aircraft defence and the 10th Aviation Army were employed to preserve peace and order in August 1969.

CSLA's actions in August 1969 have been analysed in the so-called central plan of extraordinary security measures for the whole of Czechoslovakia's territory. The Army's activities were justified as the fulfilment of a combat task in connection with martial law in spite of the fact that the troops had not been trained or prepared for armed actions against demonstrating citizens.

The analysis of the August 1969 events confirms that the Army had been demonstrably abused, at least in the political and moral sense. The Army was presented as an instrument of the KSC's political power and used for the suppression of the internal resistance by violent means. I am not sure whether the former Constitution and laws had not been violated, or whether the Army interference was legal, Nekvasil says in the statement.

Federal Property Dispute Carries Over Into Fleet

AU1908152093 Prague CTK in English 1238 GMT 17 Aug 93

[Text] Bratislava August 17 (CTK)—The Slovak minister of transport, telecommunications and public works, Roman Hofbauer, has expressed opposition to the Czech demand that the financial value of the Slovak section of the maritime fleet of the Czechoslovak Federation be deducted from the debt that Slovakia still purportedly owes to the Czech Republic.

He also underlined the Slovak stance that Slovakia owes nothing after the division of Federation.

The Slovaks are asking that the division of the fleet is done according to tonnage and market price. They want to found their own Slovak Navigation Company after the division of the fleet.

Hofbauer expressed the conviction that neither the fleet nor the Czechoslovak Airlines (CSA) are lost for Slovakia. The situation of CSA is more difficult, according to Hofbauer, because of the unfavorable legacy left by the previous Slovak Government led by Jan Carnogursky.

According to Hofbauer, this administration agreed to transfer CSA to the Czech Ministry of Economy. The Czech side now uses this fact to support its control of CSA, Hofbauer added.

He denied, however, to comment on the proposal to prosecute the former Slovak minister of transport, Vladimir Pavle (held the post from August 20, 1991 to June 24, 1992—Ed.), which Slovak Premier Vladimir Meciar is considering. Pavle is, Hofbauer said, to a large extent responsible for creating the problems surrounding the division of federal property which the present Slovak Government is trying to put right.

Army Chief Discusses Division of Army Property

LD1908135593 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak 1000 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Interview with Major-General Julius Humaj, commander in chief of the Slovak Army, by correspondent Peter Toman; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] As we reported yesterday, the commander in chief of the Slovak Republic Army met the chief of the General Staff of the Czech Republic Army in Stary Hrozenkov [southern Moravia, near the Slovak border] yesterday. Our correspondent Peter Toman interviewed Major-General Julius Humaj, the commander in chief of the Slovak Republic Army, on the outcome of the talks.

[Toman] The division of Army property is often presented to other ministries as a good example to follow. Despite this, have some issues of the division remained open?

[Humaj] We have stated that the military equipment has in effect been divided. Only a small part still needs to be resolved, mainly its transfer. The issue of the Archive Funds division has remained open. The Czech side makes this division conditional on the signing of a government agreement on defense. I have asked the chief of the General Staff [of the Czech Army] to speed up the implementation of the timetable for the transfer of museum material to the territory of Slovakia.

We have agreed that the Liquidation Commission will continue its work until the material has been completely sorted out [az do uplneho vynulovania materialu]. We estimate that in September this commission could announce that the division has been completed. [passage omitted]

[Toman] Your talks took place on the Czech-Slovak border. Did you discuss the issues of possible cooperation of the two Armies in the protection of the borders?

[Humaj] Well, this issue is a political one, and military officials do not have the authority to discuss it. We did not discuss the issue at all.

[Toman] Are there any controversial, open, or unresolved issues between the Czech and Slovak sides?

[Humaj] We have agreed that we will promptly deal with all problems that are likely to arise on the basis of talks of experts or possibly on the highest level. The talks were fair and conducted in a friendly spirit. There was no disagreement on any areas.

Russian Diplomat Denies Treaty Restricts Sovereignty

AU1908184993 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 18 Aug 93 p 12

[TA SR report: "An Instance of Miscomprehension of Article 4; Russian Diplomat on the Russian-Slovak Treaty"]

[Text] Moscow—The political debate in Slovakia on the draft "Treaty on Friendly Relations Between the Russian Federation and the Slovak Republic" is a "disease of democratization." This personal view was expressed by a high-level official of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in an interview with a TA SR correspondent. The official did not wish to be named, in view of the fact that the document has not yet been approved.

The ministry official indicated that Russia would probably not accede to a treaty that would permit Slovakia to claim certain material compensation for the environmental damage caused by the 20-year presence of Soviet troops in the former Czechoslovakia.

He said that Article 4 of the draft treaty definitely did not constitute an unacceptable restriction of Slovakia's sovereignty, as some Slovak political parties contend. According to his words, this is "an instance of the miscomprehension of Article 4," which states that "the

contracting parties will not permit the use of their territory for aggression or other acts of violence directed against the other contracting party...." In other words, the two sides—Russia and Slovakia—commit themselves not to permit aggression against one another. The Russian diplomat added that this principle laid down in the draft treaty did not apply in relation to third countries. As an example, he said that, if Slovakia allowed NATO aircraft, for instance, to fly across its territory to strike against a third country, that is, not Russia, Moscow could, at the very most, issue a moral appeal to Bratislava, because this would not violate the treaty in the present wording of the draft. A different situation, however, would come about in the event of a strike against Slovakia or against Russia from the territory of the other contracting party. The proposed treaty would be violated in that case, the Russian diplomat stressed.

If someone perceives Article 4 of the draft major political treaty as a restriction of Slovakia's sovereignty, then he could qualify every interstate treaty as such, for the contracting parties undertake in them certain commitments that automatically "restrict" their sovereignty.

He noted that, during the latest consultations on the draft Russian-Slovak treaty, Slovak experts did not raise any objections to the wording of the document. At the same time, the Russian diplomat expressed surprise at an article in SLOVENSKY DENIK, in which its author, Stefan Hrib, claimed that the Slovak side had, from the beginning, insisted on the complete condemnation [in the treaty] of the former USSR's intervention in the former Czechoslovakia. According to the Russian diplomat, the original, first draft that was submitted by the Slovak side at the beginning of the year did not even mention this point. Therefore, it is also not true that, following Russian opposition, the Slovak side accepted a toned-down formulation, he stressed. The Russian diplomat added that the proposal to include in the preamble "a passage on the condemnation of the practices of totalitarianism" was submitted by Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar during his visit to Moscow in March.

He pointed out that, in December 1989, the government of the former Soviet Union had apologized to the then Czechoslovakia for the 1968 aggression. "Russia, as a new state, condemned these tragic events when a new treaty was being drafted with what then was still Czechoslovakia. In initialing this treaty, we twice condemned the year 1968. Our, Russian, position is therefore unequivocal—we politically condemn the 1968 aggression against Czechoslovakia," he stressed.

The Russian diplomat indicated, however, that Moscow would probably not accept a formulation of the treaty that would allow Slovakia to claim material compensation for the environmental damage caused by Soviet troops during the 20 years of their presence on the territory of the Slovak Republic. The Russian Federation is a new state that does not bear material responsibility for the former Soviet Union, he said. In this context, he cited an agreement concluded by Russia with the then Czechoslovakia, the preamble of which contains the condemnation of the use of force against Czechoslovakia in 1968 and which states, furthermore, that "the material consequences... were settled in the agreement of 1 April 1992."

Meciar Discusses Treaty With Russia, NATO Membership

LD1708220293 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak 1630 GMT 17 Aug 93

[Interview with Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar by correspondent Samelova; on 17 August; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Samelova] Article four [word indistinct] of the treaty with Russia, which says that the Russian Federation and the Slovak Republic are not direct neighbors, has been widely discussed and criticized. Is it going to be left out of the treaty?

[Meciar] Article four has been automatically copied from the Czechoslovak-Soviet treaty. This article was appropriate at a time when we had a joint border. It was in line with alliance treaties, as well as treaties on friendship and cooperation. Hence its incorporation into the new treaty can be, and is, the object of a discussion. This is how it has been understood by the Russian side and by us. [passage omitted]

[Samelova] Is not the treaty going to limit Slovakia's sovereignty should Slovakia wish to join NATO?

[Meciar] The Russian side does not have the slightest objection to Slovakia entering NATO. I tabled this question during my talks with Yeltsin and he gave me a clear answer that was based on extensive diplomatic discussion as to what that answer should be. His answer was very clear answer: We are not pursuing an imperialist policy; if you want to join NATO, it is a matter for you to decide. I thanked him and considered the matter closed.

[Samelova] What about the treaty article about Russia's apology for the 1968 occupation, i.e. the issue which started the whole dispute?

[Meciar] Naturally, we went back to the year of 1968. The question of apology, and whether this is an essential issue for us or not, was tabled. Foreign Minister Kozyrev was also present and the discussion was somewhat more complicated. We received a very straightforward answer—Russia's apology for Soviet Union's mistakes was out of the question; it was not a matter for the Russian parliament. [passage omitted]

Unions Accuse Government of Reducing Living Standard

AU1908143493 Prague CTK in English 1021 GMT 17 Aug 93

[Text] Kosice, East Slovakia August 17 (CTK)—The Slovak Government does not yet have a social policy

plan, is not holding to agreements made during the Tripartite talks nor to the general agreement, and is engaging restrictions in the social sphere which are unacceptably lowering the living standard of many families, says the president of the Slovak Confederation of Trade Unions (KOSS), Alojz Englis.

The general agreement, between the tripartite of business, government and labour, governs matters in the socio-economic sphere, and is renegotiated yearly. Its aim is to maintain social peace during the transition to a full market economy.

We do not want to escalate matters and we are not unyielding, but there is simply nothing left to yield, Englis said, adding that the unions are interested mainly in appropriate economic policy, a basis of good social policy. He said that the government's current approach is disorganised, and is only mending holes as they appear.

Englis rejected proposed changes to the social laws, approved by the government in July, as he expects they will lead to a further lowering of living standards and will most affect the economically disadvantaged parts of the population.

Almost 90 Percent Want Capital Punishment Reinstated

AU1908191893 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 17 Aug 93 p 2

[TA SR report: "Majority in Favor of Capital Punishment"]

[Text] Bratislava— ULTEX Slovakia, a specialized agency for market research and public opinion surveys, recently carried out a survey of public opinion on the problems of crime. In personal interviews, respondents of various age groups were asked to reply to the question: Do you favor the reintroduction of capital punishment for particularly heinous crimes? Of the 500 respondents, 79 percent replied "definitely yes," 8 percent "rather yes," 7 percent "rather no," 3 percent "definitely no," and 3 percent did not have an opinion. Asked whether they thought that the present situation in the sphere of the penal code corresponded to the needs of society, 3 percent of respondents replied "definitely yes," 3 percent "rather yes," 17 percent "sometimes yes, sometimes no," 30 percent "rather no," 42 percent "definitely no," 1 percent were indifferent, and 4 percent did not have an opinion of their own.

Goncz Expects Peaceful Year, Considers Future

AU1908143093 Budapest MTI in English 1007 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Budapest, 19 August (MTI)—"I do not think 1993 will see a hot autumn in Hungary. I am convinced we can reach the 1994 general elections peacefully," Hungarian President Arpad Goncz said in an interview in the daily MAGYAR HIRLAP on Thursday [19 August].

"The great change of style in hungarian politics will be in 1998. How the period from 1994 to 1998 will pass I do not know, but there will have to be a change of tone and of style because some things have become impossible," Goncz said.

"In addition, I think 1998 will bring a great change because currently, there are three major parties the majority of whose voters belong to the oldest generation. This group, mostly disappointed and looking back to the past, will diminish by 1998, and, at those elections, the balance will shift towards pragmatic, maybe disillusioned youth, for whom current slogans mean nothing," he said.

Hungary's three ruling coalition parties, to which Goncz was most probably referring, are the Hungarian Democratic Forum, the Independent Smallholders' Party,and the Christian Democratic People's Party.

Goncz put the start of the period he mentioned as 1994 since Hungary's next general elections will take place that year.

Meanwhile, in his view, while everyone in the region acknowledged Hungary's regional mediating—almost central—role, Hungary's western partners were confused by its disputes with neighbours.

The south Slav conflict did not threaten Hungary with war, Goncz said. But, it was impossible to tell beforehand, what the size and results of any retaliation by NATO would be and what response it would draw from Bosnia and Serbia.

In cases like this, leaders of a state had to be prepared for the worst and had to promote the best solution.

In addition, Goncz said the role of presidents of republics in the region was expanding, in that they could communicate with society independently of day-to-day politics and fill the role of a kind of "people's tribune."

Defense Ministry Official Views Achievements

AU1908193493 Budapest PESTI HIRLAP in Hungarian 19 Aug 93 p 9

[Interview with Laszlo Szendrei, political state secretary at the Defense Ministry, by Gyorgy M. Toth; place and date not given: "On the Army's Tasks"]

[Text] [Toth] The Defense Ministry was not idle in the first half of 1993 and it seems that it will also have to complete many tasks in the second half of the year. Can you first please summarize the results of the first six months?

[Szendrei] Out of our strategically important tasks, I emphasize the purchase of weapons, legislation, and stabilization as regards personnel. The details of the weapons purchase are well known to the public. The series of negotiations that will result in the MiG-29s arriving in Hungary in the near future in exchange for the Russian state debt is known. The delivery of spare parts received from Germany as a kind of donation is also in progress. In my view, good cooperation between the ministry and the Hungarian Army facilitated the most economical purchases that were possible. As far as legislation, or more precisely, the preparation of laws, is concerned, it is a success that we now have accepted defense principles. Although I felt that the six-party talks had to be temporarily interrupted because of the lengthy debate on issues relating to the "amendment of the Constitution and where the Border Guard should belong," progress can be seen even in the draft defense bill. Based on what was said at the expert talks, we prepared an amendment proposal package that has been forwarded to the parties and the military office of the president. Our financial management difficulties present the biggest problem. It is well known that, in spite of our efforts, the increase of wages and allowances did not keep up with inflation.

[Toth] Regarding the 1994 budget, we have heard about certain personnel reductions. Is this true?

[Szendrei] It is natural that the staff are sensitive to this kind of news. However, we are not planning to sack thousands of regular soldiers or public employees because of the budget indications. However, I have to note that some kind of rationalization and a more sensible organization of certain activities may take place. This has to be seen as natural.

[Toth] You occupied your post as state secretary five months ago. Your statements at the time indicated that you would like to change the public image of the Army. Do you think that, including the newspaper reactions to the ominous Beatrice [pop group] concerts, you have achieved your goals?

[Szendrei] Yes and I maintain this in spite of the fact that, in connection with these concerts, it came to light that some people, to put it mildly, are not supportive of my initiative or my political activities. I will recall a small episode. At the site of one of the concerts, antagonistic feelings had emerged regarding this whole issue. However, after the concert, many people went up to Fero Nagy [leader of Beatrice] and told him they would have helped him with the preparations completely differently had they not based their views on newspaper articles. Therefore, I still think that the Army's image, which in my view is at its ebb, should be changed, but this should not be done unmerited, rather, for the honorable service that I have experienced during my work as a deputy and

later as a state secretary. I know very well that, at the moment, it is more fashionable to talk negatively about the Army. Once a society and its Parliament decided to maintain an organization to defend it and the country, then, rather than saying "the military," we should be saying "our soldiers."

[Toth] What kind of Fall do you expect in the Ministry on Balaton Street?

[Szendrei] We expect a legislative season. As far as I am aware, the minister will present the defense bill at the September session. In spite of the already mentioned problems, I trust that we will enact the law with my deputy colleagues. If this is so, we will immediately be able to start work on the bill on the legal status of soldiers. The basic principles and the two laws would mean that 1993 could be the year of laying the foundations of the Defense Ministry and the Hungarian Army.

Foreign Affairs Spokesman Views Serbian Danube Blockade

AU1808123293 Budapest MTI in English 1300 GMT 17 Aug 93

[Text] Budapest, 17 Aug (MTI)—Developments in the Serbian blockade of the river Danube were among topics discussed by Foreign Affairs Spokesman Janos Herman at a press briefing today.

Herman said three Hungarian ships had been stopped, or restricted in their movements, along the Serbian section of the Danube for more than 10 days.

The Foreign Ministry had utilized all available diplomatic avenues to ensure free shipping along the Danube. The Hungarian Government informed the Serbian authorities in advance about the passage of the Hungarian boats and asked that their free movement be ensured according to international law.

On learning the ships had been stopped, the ministry immediately contacted the Sanctions Committee of the U.N. Security Council and its chairman.

Budapest has provided continuous information to UN Groups on the unlawful Serbian steps taken against Hungarian ships and has asked the committee to intervene and ensure free shipping.

Hungary has also taken bilateral steps, calling on Belgrade authorities, both in Budapest and Belgrade, to observe international laws.

Herman said Hungary considered the coordinated Serbian governmental steps contradictory to Security Council resolutions. Stopping the ships violated the Danube Agreement, and the oral and written guarantees provided by the Serbian Government to the UN, to ensure free shipping along the river.

The UN Sanctions Committee would discuss the matter of the Hungarian ships on Wednesday, Herman said, adding that he believed Hungary would receive the committee's support.

The committee's chairman is expected to visit Budapest in the first half of September, at Hungary's invitation.

The spokesman was asked whether Hungary intended to lodge a protest at the Council of Europe (CE) on the removal of Hungarian-language signs in Slovakia.

Herman said if the issue were on the agenda, Hungary's CE representatives would give their views on whether Slovakia was fulfilling its obligations accepted when it became a CE member.

Interior Minister Views Domestic Political Situation

AU1908191293 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 19 Aug 93 pp 1,9

[Interview with Interior Minister Peter Boross by Ervin Tamas and Peter Vajda; place and date not given: "I Am In Favor of A Much Stronger Executive Power"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [NEPSZABADSAG] You said that 20 August was also the anniversary of the foundation of a stable state. Is the Hungarian state stable today?

[Boross] Unfortunately, conditions in Hungary are not favorable today for external stability, not only because a war is being waged in our region, but also because the greatest migratory pressure in our region is on Hungary. However, I think that Hungary is characterized by an internal stability. In my present job, it is my main obligation to see to it that we defend our borders and preserve order and our constitutional order. I believe that there is no better form of society than parliamentary democracy. However, I must also add that a lot of troubles are caused by the fact that the majority principle is not asserted in cardinal issues, "thanks" to the laws requiring a two-third majority, which of course must be treated with understanding, given the circumstances of their emergence. The other issue is the law on legislation, a law that makes too many subjects a parliamentary issue, and this slows down the decisions. I say, and not for the first time, that we should implement a much stronger government in this transitional period, which, in my opinion, will last for at least 10 years.

[NEPSZABADSAG] What do you mean by this?

[Boross] There are a lot of areas in which government interference is excluded from the outset, even if the processes would justify such an interference. Autonomies that exclude interference from the outset emerged very early. One example of this is the almost total lack of control at the local government bodies. In other words, I believe in a much stronger executive power and I think that every age requires a different distribution of rights

between the executive power and legislation. Democracy does not depend on decentralization! I am sure that a more efficient executive power could also have done more in correcting the mistakes. [passage omitted]

[NEPSZABADSAG] We do not know whether the capital city has an independent foreign policy, but we do see that your centralizing efforts are not very popular among the local government bodies. Take the appointment of police captains, something in which you do not allow much interference.

[Boross] The model of local government police failed in the whole of Europe, and a centrally-directed police force emerged everywhere. We should not allow local nepotism to emerge. Moreover, regarding its technical supply and training, local government police cannot compete with a centrally-directed police either. [passage omitted]

[NEPSZABADSAG] You are quite optimistic about the results of the struggle against crime. It is true that the upward curve of crime statistics came to a halt this year, but one should not forget the pace of its increase from 1979 until today. Mr. Boross, will this halt in the constant increase in crime statistics be a lasting one?

[Boross] As far as I know, in European countries, the number of crimes per 100,000 people is between 3,000 and 13,000. In Hungary, this number hardly exceeds 4,000 today. This clearly shows that we are not in a disadvantageous situation, even if our citizens think differently. [passage omitted]

I would be happy to be able to stabilize the crime statistics in Hungary at the present level. We are quite helpless with the numerous economic crimes, and we must definitely modernize the criminal investigation and reduce the administrative burdens on our police. I would like the public to understand that we must provide greater scope and greater opportunities for criminal investigation. Personal freedom is valuable only until there is no risk of being hit on the head on the street. [passage omitted]

[NEPSZABADSAG] In your opinion, do we need a new constitution?

[Boross] In my opinion, we definitely need a new constitution, but the formulation of a new constitution in the current legislative period is no longer opportune. In any case, as far as I know, drafts are being prepared in several places, but we should not hasten the final formulation, because we must now formulate a constitution for the 21st century. [passage omitted]

[NEPSZABADSAG] Beginning with 1 September 1993, you will act not only as an interior minister and not only as a deputy prime minister, but also as the deputy executive chairman of the Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF].

[Boross] My "kingdom" is limited to one month, and I will take special care to tackle the issues in full cooperation with Sandor Lezsak in the course of this one month, because, beginning with 1 October, Lezsak Sandor will fill this position continuously. It is a fact that the MDF was a gathering party, and many kinds of ideas, concepts, and individual styles mingled in this party. Many people predicted that the party would collapse, but this has not happened. People left the MDF, people who wanted to leave, and some of them went to the right and some went a little to the left, but neither of these camps represents a considerable number of people, compared with the whole. A center-right party is now emerging that, to a certain extent, embodies the traditions in Hungary; a strong national determination free of all extremism. In my opinion, this MDF will last for a long time on the domestic political arena, and it is facing the elections of 1994 with success. I am convinced that, by the end of the decade, it will become clear that this political formation is capable of keeping this country in a spiritual and physical balance. I think that many people agree with me that the MDF is now in a better position than at the time of internal struggles. It became clear that this party needed idealists, but it did not need dreamers.

FIDESZ Military Concept Calls For Smaller Army

AU1908184793 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 19 Aug 93 p 4

["F.A."-signed report: "They Urge the Implementation of the Army's Reform—The FIDESZ Wants a Smaller Army With More Striking Power"]

[Text] In developing its defense policy, the Federation of Young Democrats [FIDESZ] starts from the premise that Hungary cannot become the target of a large-scale surprise attack. This is contained in the FIDESZ's military reform concept that was made public at a news conference at the party's headquarters on Lendvai Street.

Party Chairman Viktor Orban noted that a better equipped army of 60,000 would be enough, instead of the current 100,000. A well-trained rapid deployment force with modern equipment based on professional and contracted personnel would be the core of this, parliamentary deputy Tamas Wachsler, chairman of the FIDESZ's National Security Committee, added.

Wachsler also said that they plan to reduce the Army's size mainly through reducing the number of conscripts and the changes would not essentially affect the number of regular soldiers. However, in Wachsler's view, the budget does not make it feasible to abolish compulsory military service and conscription. In the FIDESZ's view, it is also necessary to establish effective political and civil control over the Hungarian military forces. The FIDESZ maintains that the reform of the military forces cannot be delayed anymore, therefore, it wants to advance this process, which can be completed by the end of the next parliamentary cycle.

The FIDESZ is well aware that, because of its nature, military service is concomitant with certain limitations of some human rights. However, it cannot be accepted that the Army limits the rights of citizens unnecessarily and excessively. This is stated in the concept called "Democratic Society—Combat-Worthy Army."

Regarding this, Deputy Chairman Gabor Fodor emphasized that it is definitely desirable to register the rights of conscripted soldiers in higher-level legal provisions. The FIDESZ also considers it important to establish an effective interest protection system, and its forums, in the Army.

Suchocka Comments on Russian Pipeline Agreement

LD1908145293 Warsaw PAP in English 1432 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Warsaw, Aug. 19—Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka told newsmen Thursday that a Polish-Russian agreement on the construction of a natural gas pipeline from Russia to Western Europe via Poland was an "investment of the century."

The agreement is to be signed during President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Poland on Aug. 24 and gives this country the right to purchase additional 14 billion cubic metres of gas annually.

The premier said the main cause for the delay in negotiations on Polish-Lithuanian treaty is a controversy whether a historical declaration on the hitherto Polish-Lithuanian relations should be signed prior to the treaty.

According to the prime minister, the declaration should be signed later and it ought to be negotiated by MPs of both states. Suchocka stressed that September 1 could be a feasible date of signing the treaty.

Suchocka assured newsmen she had not yet started the electoral campaign yet and stressed she would join it at the end of August and the beginning of September.

Suchocka said she would not participate in Sundays primary elections at Wrzesnia, a locality in a district from which she runs as candidate to the Sejm. She also did not agree with a suggestion that popularity of the Democratic Union (UD) with the voters was falling.

Policeman Who Shot at Suchocka's Car Fired

LD1908141293 Warsaw PAP in English 1310 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Warsaw, Aug. 19—A policeman who fired from a gas weapon at the car with Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka last Saturday near Sochaczew, Skierniewice province, was dismissed from work after an investigation into the case had been concluded, spokesman for the Interior Ministry Piotr Szczypinski announced on Thursday. The spokesman declined to provide any more details.

The information about the shooting was released on Wednesday by prime minister's press spokesman Zdobyslaw Milewski who said that the policeman, misled by a flashing light on the roof of a security service car, probably thought he witnessed a police chase and fired warning shots.

BBWR Outlines Program at News Conference

LD1908201693 Warsaw PAP in English 1921 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Warsaw, Aug. 19—Andrzej Olechowski, one of the authors of the Non-Party Reform Bloc (BBWR), presented the BBWR programme at a press conference in Warsaw on Thursday. The programme was formulated by representatives of employees, entrepreneurs, farmers and local government activists.

In order to accelerate growth of prosperity and development of democracy, Olechowski considered it necessary to create conditions for a broad development of enterprise, and to increase effectiveness of the state actions.

"Prosperity and democracy can be achieved only in a political system which is based on private property, competition, openness to the world, respect for the law and honesty," Olechowski stressed.

the "Siec" (network) inter-factory agreement of Solidarity workplace committees, one of the leading forces behind the BBWR, focused on issues connected with employees. It considered as the most significant a proposal to issue inscribed credit investment bonds worth 300 million zlotys. Such bonds are to allow all adult Poles to bid for state property.

Other demands put forward by "Siec" include the fight against unemployment, improvements in the investment environment, and reform of old-age and disability pensions.

Entrepreneurs considered as the most important to stabilize conditions of economic activity by not introducing new taxes and freezing their maximum rates till the year 2000.

The BBWR also suggested a fast privatization of the food processing sector.

As far as local government is concerned, the BBWR said it would be necessary to decentralize the administration of the state and to consolidate local executive authorities in order to increase effectiveness. The introduction of a mixed presidential and parliamentary system, reform of administration and consolidation of jurisdiction are to serve this goal.

BBWR press spokesman Jacek Szymanderski said the proposal to introduce a mixed presidential and parliamentary system is not connected with the present president. "The BBWR is a movement which does not have a leader and does not have its candidate for prime minister, but if such responsibility falls on us we will establish a government," he said.

Solidarity Demands Negotiations With Government

LD1908222893 Warsaw PAP in English 2142 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Warsaw, Aug. 19—The National Commission of the "Solidarity" trade union, at its meeting in Warsaw Thursday, demanded immediate negotiations with the government on the current strike situation in the country and unresolved, despite earlier "Solidarity" demands, problems of employees.

In its statement, the National Commission termed the present attitude of the government towards employees as "bearing signs of political provocation".

The National Commission dismissed Grzegorz Jaczynski from the post of its press spokesman and Stanislaw Weglarz from the post of a member of "Solidarity" Presidium explaining they had violated the National Commission resolution barring "Solidarity" activists from standing elections on tickets of other groupings. Jaczynski intends to run for elections on the list of the Democratic Union (UD), while Weglarz on the ticket of the Non-Party Reform Bloc (BBWR).

The National Commission also decided to recall its representative at the presidential office.

Participants in the meeting referred to the letter sent at the end of July by "Solidarity" leader Marian Krzaklewski to President Lech Walesa. According to Krzaklewski the president failed to answer to the letter and thus bears partial responsibility for current strikes. The letter included a package of problems, recognized during June talks between the union and the president as demanding urgent solutions.

Also on Thursday, the National Commission appointed a 22-person team, including representatives of all branches of the union, assigned to establish the national list of "Solidarity" candidates for the Sejm (Lower House). The National Commission is not obliged to accept the team's decision.

Solidarity leaders decided also to stage a demonstration in Walbrzych on August 23 to protest against "unlawful privatisation" of the "Porcelana S.A." company, whose workers began a strike at the end of June.

KPN's Moczulski on SLD, Economy, Elections

WS1908110093 Warsaw Radio Zet in Polish 0615 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Studio interview with Leszek Moczulski, leader of the Confederation for an Independent Poland (KPN), by Krzysztof Skowronski; from the "Guest of Radio Z" program—live]

[Text] [Skowronski] Why is SLD [Democratic Left Alliance] receiving the greatest support of voters at the moment?

[Moczulski] I believe that this is for two reasons. First, the policy of the last four years', at least in the economic and social area, has not proved itself at all. Second, Poles are very strong-willed. Just like in the old days people used to say: Lenin, Stalin, get back; Bierut, Stalin, get back, because workers are dying of hunger. Now, they did not at all want Stalin to come back. Today many people who cannot imagine a situation where communists are back in power, say, out of spite, that they support them; they are simply mad at the government.

[Skowronski] These are merely pre-election declarations, then. This is, however, not how people will vote. Am I right?

[Moczulski] Yes, people will not vote that way. Nevertheless, social democracy will certainly obtain a lot of votes, far too many. Therefore, it is a very significant political problem.

[Skowronski] If SLD won the elections, what consequences would this have for Poland?

[Moczulski] If SLD won the elections, the consequences would be really very tragic. SLD's victory leads to a social revolution in Poland. Now, please imagine a situation where Kwasniewski, Miller, and someone else form a government. It would be a government incapable of overcoming the crisis in Poland; it would not even be capable of directing Poland to the road of overcoming the crisis. After a few months, the people who voted for SLD would feel deceived; then they would join the many people who would all along be dissatisfied with SLD's victory. A victory of SLD means a social revolution in Poland. If it really happens this time, Poland will, as a result, suffer great losses, while SLD will be very brutally eliminated.

[Skowronski] Why do you say that SLD is not capable of overcoming the crisis in Poland?

[Moczulski] I can say this because if they knew how to do it, they would have overcome the crisis by 1989, when they had a lot more opportunities. I would like to add that before 1989 they could believe that they were fully entitled to be in power. However, the 1989 defeat broke their backbone. The time of one entire generation must pass before a political party regains its ability to govern, after such a defeat. What I mean is also the ability to make decisions, including those which are not very popular. Without them it is impossible to govern. SLD is so afraid of the people because Poland would be a step away from very sharp demands of accounting for the past. It was a miracle that they avoided it. They are so afraid of the people that they will be unable to govern the country.

[Skowronski] Is KPN capable of finding a way out of the recession?

[Moczulski] Yes, of course it is. We have been getting ready for it for many years, for the process of combating the recession....

[Skowronski, interrupting] However, is it ready to take over power? Is everything prepared in the confederation?

[Moczulski] To be frank, I am afraid that we will never be in such a condition that we would consider fully sufficient. Gaps and defects are everywhere. However, I believe that in comparison with other political parties, we are much better prepared. What I have in mind is our program as well as our staff. I am also thinking about our awareness of where we should start, which goals should be pursued first, and so on. Also, I believe that we are not

detached from reality. We deal with this reality in our everyday life, and we are surrounded by it. Now, one of the reasons why government parties are unable to govern, is the fact that they are detached from reality. In your radio yesterday I heard some deputy minister, who stated with satisfaction that senior citizens are better off today than before. Now, it is not the point that it is false. The point is, the deputy minister believes in it. They simply believe that just because they are implementing some reforms, the reforms are correct. However, a reform may well be either silly or correct. More frequently we can see....

[Skowronski, interrupting] What are the chances that KPN will win these election?

[Moczulski] Our rating is slowly going up, and....

[Skowronski, interrupting] Why is that?

[Moczulski] It is because the people, while they are getting ready for the elections, are beginning to think.... [pauses] Maybe still rather slowly because we still have a month to go. They are beginning to think who is really trustworthy. As a consequence, some parties are losing voters, others are gaining. The party that is gaining the most is KPN. We do not want to have the greatest support today. And it is a very good thing that we are not in the first position today because it might be lost. We want to have the greatest support on 19 September. This is our plan, and this is what will probably happen. Certainly, this requires great effort on the part of many people, I must add. For example, this week our people will visit another million apartments and houses in Poland.

[Skowronski] Do you also go from door to door and canvass?

[Moczulski] I really wish I could. However, I do not have the time. It has happened a few times; however, most often I simply do not have the time. Nevertheless....

[Skowronski, interrupting] This means that people in Warsaw do not have the opportunity to meet you in their homes. Is it so?

[Moczulski] The people in Warsaw have slightly limited opportunities to meet me....

[Skowronski, interrupting] What would happen in Poland if the confederation took over power? What would change right away?

[Moczulski] Everything would start turning faster right away. We would immediately start implementing the plan that we have prepared, already the moment we form the government. Incidentally, today we are holding a seminar for journalists where we will present our views on the transformation of the entire public administration. Now, already, the moment we form the government, we will implement a major reform.

[Skowronski] So what will you do?

[Moczulski] Well, we will create a government consisting of 11 ministries. We will adopt a very strict rule that there is no agency of state administration which is not subordinated to either a minister or the prime minister directly. Whereas right now there are many agencies which are not subordinated to anybody, or which are subordinated to several ministers at the same time, which is the same as if they were under nobody, or even worse. So while creating the government, we will begin restructuring the central administration. Our governmental network, our functional network, is more or less as follows: Whereas there are currently approximately 220 people occupying the positions of secretary of state, under secretary of state, ministry director-generals, government plenipotentiaries, and various similar chiefs of central offices on equal footing with the others, we now have an organizational network outlined in which there are 75 of these positions. It is not so much a matter of saving money here, although that is also very important. First of all, what we gain is flexibility in the central apparatus. Right now the central state apparatus, the state leadership, is not capable of leading the country in a flexible, consistent, or fast manner. It is no wonder it is this way...

[Skowronski, interrupting] But is the confederation...?

[Moczulski, interrupting] A few days back, I heard one of the deputy prime ministers say, in response to a charge that nothing has been done to improve public safety and safety on the street, what do you mean nothing has been done? We had a meeting on that way back in September. See, these are never-ending meetings, with huge numbers of people who leave the meetings feeling that they just fulfilled their duty in the correct fashion, feeling that they have just gotten rid of the thing, but nothing ever changes. What we need is an extremely efficient government, not big in size, because it is much easier to work and to hold people accountable when you work in small teams.

[Skowronski] Does the confederation already have a shadow cabinet? Do we already know who will be prime minister, deputy prime minister?

[Moczulski] Maybe, or maybe the prime minister will result from a coalition arrangement. Right now, taking care of the positions of deputy ministers is a much more important issue, especially considering that an extensive reduction in the number of those positions will result in only a small number of deputy ministers; they are the ones who should be the professional factor in the different ministries. They have to be both professionally competent and organizationally skillful, as well as capable of making decisions. Now, as for the Council of Ministers, if it results from a coalition—we do not know yet to what extent it will be based on a coalition—the more problems, as it were, there will be. So that is why our shadow cabinet is not composed exclusively of ministers, but primarily of deputy ministers.

[Skowronski] You have said nothing about privatization yet. Still, that is a favorite topic of the KPN.

[Moczulski] I think that, unfortunately, it is a topic which keeps appearing in the press...

[Skowronski, interrupting] Who will win the law suit, Lewandowski or Kaczynski?

[Moczulski] Lewandowski has already lost the suit.

[Skowronski] Why do you say that?

[Moczulski] Because a privatization minister like Lewandowski is never capable of explaining what happened to the thousands upon thousands of millions of zlotys which were wasted. He is not able to explain....[pauses] Yesterday, for example, they showed a model example of how wonderful life is in Kwidzyn, which was privatized. God grant that it were true; we would be very happy about that. Still, that does not change the fact that the people, the company which bought Kwidzyn, said with amazement in an interview with an American business magazine that they never expected to be able to buy anything so cheap. They were ready to pay several times the sum they actually paid. It also turned out at the same time that they paid much more, by one-fourth, than we would think from what the Polish party received. Of course, we do not know who was paid the extra money. Plus, you know these are....[pauses] A minister of finance.... [pauses] A minister who is charged with such things is politically bankrupt. Remember what happened to a former French prime minister? He was not charged with anything too severe. The issue was only that he had taken some kind of credit, he had arranged a certain kind of credit, or something like that. What happened to that prime minister? People who perform public functions cannot afford even a shadow of suspicion...

[Skowronski, interrupting] Is it some kind of...?

[Moczulski, interrupting] A man who is a minister for a second time—when you have dark clouds gathering over the ministry for the second time—with any kind of probable suspicions is a politically bankrupt man.

[Skowronski] What about the KPN's ideas on privatization? What about the 1,000,000 billion zlotys and the giving away of 150 million [words indistinct]?

[Moczulski] I do not know why you say 1,000,000 billion [currency not specified]. If we keep calculating like that, we can end up with even more astronomical numbers. If all the people covered by our enfranchisement program wanted to obtain the maximum available credits, in all possible branches, and if in addition to that they wanted to obtain those credits on the same day, which is impossible if only for technical reasons, then perhaps we would end up with a figure like that. That figure would be one-fourth of the catalogue value of state wealth generally destined for privatization by Minister Lewandowski. It would be one-fourth of the wealth. But first of all, we are not able to do this in one day, but rather over a number of years. Nobody is able to use it in 100 percent of the cases, because that is simply not possible. So we can talk in terms of perhaps one-fourth or maybe even less, over several years. Also think about this—if a minister....[pauses] If popular and other kinds of privatization conducted by the governments that have held power up to now, which would cover the entire economy, if that privatization plan is to sell a much larger portion of the national wealth—in the area of 2 or 3,000,000 billion [currency not specifiec]—then why do these people think that our very modest plan is unrealistic for lack of capital, whereas theirs is realistic? Unless we rely on this explanation: They plan on selling national wealth worth 3,000,000 billion zlotys for, let us say, 300 billion. Then they will of course say they privatized it for 300 billion, but who will then lose the almost 3,000,000 billion zlotys?

[Skowronski] But KPN wants to print money, is that true? I mean unprotected money?

[Moczulski] Unprotected money is printed now for election purposes by Suchocka's government. We want to limit the printing of empty money, which has been done with such vigor in Poland for four years now. The biggest achievements in this regard were in 1991 by the team of Bielecki and Balcerowicz. We want to limit that, even though we conclude with sorrow that because of a financial deficit, we will not be able to eliminate the printing of empty money completely for some time yet. Still, we have to strive toward that goal as soon as possible. What we want to do is to get the existing money to work, the money which is in banks, the real money. We want to get credits moving, such as the credits we obtained from the World Bank totaling $2.5 billion. That money is not being used. That is real money. It has to be used.

[Skowronski] Radio Zet's guest today was Mr. Leszek Moczulski, the leader of the KPN. Thank you for the conversation.

Last Russian Aircraft Leave Legnica

LD2008095193 Warsaw Radio Warszawa Network in Polish 0000 GMT 20 Aug 93

[Text] Legnica—Yesterday, the two last Russian transport aircraft left the former Russian airfield there. The airfield will be taken over completely by city authorities by the end of August.

Government Involvement in U.S. 'Gun Scandal' Case

LD1908225393 Warsaw TVP Television Second Program Network in Polish 2200 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Relayed by Warsaw TV Polonia Network]

[Text] [Announcer] A Polish Government memorandum concerning the five Poles involved in the gun scandal will be delivered to judge Nickerson today.

Criminal proceedings in the United States permit a third party, which is not one of the sides in the trial, to act in the role of amicus curiae, that is, a friend of the court, and present their own opinion or draw the court's attention to elements of the case important to the delivery of the verdict and the sentence.

[Correspondent] Why has the Polish Government intervened so late?

[Professor Stanislaw Soltysik—caption] In accordance with the American procedure this kind of amicus curiae brief can be submitted only in support of an already submitted motion by a side in the trial. Second, we have submitted a motion to postpone the trial in order to investigate additional circumstances of a factual nature and very complex new issues of a legal nature which require very thorough analysis. We are in permanent contact with the defendants' lawyers who completely agree with this. You should note that our motion has been unanimously supported by them.

And the third consideration is that this is an enormously complex and sensitive case. The prime minister, who has decided to take a view herself and provide the direction for the Polish Government intervention, right until the last moment has been receiving conflicting recommendations from renowned authorities and experts.

[Announcer] The main challenge of the memorandum, modelled on the case of the Austrian citizen Heinz Golicek, will be that the American court has no jurisdiction and that Polish and international law has been violated in the course of the performance of their duties by persons acting for the American side.

July Production, Unemployment Data Released

LD1908211793 Warsaw PAP in English 2030 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Warsaw, Aug. 19—Polish industrial production fell by 8.6 percent in July, following a slowdown in demand after the introduction of value added tax [VAT] at the beginning of the month, Roman Sawinski, vice-president of the Central Statistical Office (GUS), announced on Thursday.

Sawinski noted that the fall in output was most marked in industrial sectors which stepped up production to beat the VAT deadline of July 5. However, sales were some 3.3 percent higher than in July 1992, with 17 out of the 23 main industrial sectors posting gains.

The largest year-on-year gains were noted in the poligraphic and precision machinery sectors, 35.7 percent and 28.2 percent respectively. By contrast fuel and coal production declined by over 10 percent on 1992.

By comparison with June, construction registered a fall in production of 21.5 percent, although the July levels were 18.5 percent up on July 1992, and the cumulative figures for the first seven months of 1993 were 13.9 percent better than for the same period in 1992. However, construction starts, and planning permissions, were down in July.

The GUS vice-president noted that unemployment rose by 8 percent in July, and now comprises 15.2 percent of the Polish workforce.

Commenting on the 1.1 percent increase in prices in July, Sawinski noted that this was the lowest monthly rise since mid-1991. He also noted that VAT-related price rises were most noticeable in services, with gains averaging 4.5 percent over June. There was also a marked impact on energy, heating and telecommunications charges, and on bus, air and rail transport. By contrast, food prices fell by 2.4 percent, with seasonal falls in the price of fruit and vegetables offsetting increases in meat and dairy prices.

Consumer prices were 34.8 percent higher than in July 1992, and 37 percent higher in the first seven months of 1993 than in the analagous period of 1992. GUS also reported that gross wages were 0.8 percent higher in real terms than in June 1993 (net: 0.5 percent), and 1 percent higher than a year ago (net: 1.2 percent).

In January - July 1993, real wages were 2.5 percent higher in the enterprise sector than in January - July 1992.

WEU's Burgelin Praises FRY Embargo Monitoring on Danube

AU2008084693 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1816 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 19/8/1993—Thursday, 19 August, the Secretary General of the West European Union [WEU] Parliamentary Assembly, Henri Burgelin, was in Calafat, Romanian Danube port, where he was shown the Carpati and Oltenita, the two ships that host the 120 officers of the international sanctions mission on the Danube.

Colonel Pierro Pistone, from the Italian Guardia Finanziale [financial oversight body], and head of the coordination command of the mission, said that the Romanian authorities have so far conducted, with the aid of the special mission, 561 routine inspection, of which 124 in Calafat, 120 at Mohaci, and 317 at Galati.

Upon completion of his visit in Calafat, the secretary general of the WEU Parliamentary Assembly told the press that he was extremely impressed by two things: The magnificent cooperation between the Romanian authorities and the members of the WEU mission in Calafat, and secondly by the good atmosphere between the two sides. He was also pleased to note that the system became functional in a very short time, which strengthened his conviction that, as far as the Danube was concerned, the anti-Yugoslav blockade was the effect of the cooperation between Romania and the WEU and that it was particularly efficient. Even if in other areas the embargo might happen to be disregarded, "I can vouch this is not the case on the Danube," he said and promised to duly inform the WEU assembly accordingly in the report he is to prepare on this subject.

Defense Communique Outlines Planned Accord With Russia

AU1908193293 Bucharest AZI in Romanian 16 Aug 93 p 2

[Andrei Costa report: "The Ministry of Defense Reveals the Contents of the Planned Romanian-Russian Military Accord"]

[Text] During the second half of September, Romania and the Russian Federation will sign, by their ministries of national defense, a military accord, which has been approved by Romania's Supreme Defense Council and the Romanian Government. The accord will be personally signed by Lieutenant General Niculae Spiroiu, Romania's Defense Minister, and his Russian counterpart, General Pavel [Sergeyevich] Grachev.

Related to the contents of the accord, we have obtained the following official statement from the Press Office of our Armed Forces: "The accord is not a military alliance. It merely establishes ways and domains of cooperation during peacetime. Thus, the document stipulates mutual consultations on educational issues of military personnel and exchanges in the training of personnel by means of courses and brief educational programs; swaps of experience in culture, arts, mass media, and sports activity; mutual exchange of information related to the administration of the airspace and antiaircraft defense; documentation in each other's archives; the preservation of monuments and military cemeteries; swaps of experience on the reform processes in the two forces, and so on."

PRM's Tudor Recommends 'Prudence' Regarding Russia

AU1908201893 Bucharest TINERETUL LIBER in Romanian 16 Aug 93 p 8

[MEDIAFAX note: "According to C.V. Tudor: 'The Soviet Empire Should Be Allowed To Die in Peace"]

[Text] In connection with the forthcoming visit to Bucharest by Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev in September on the occasion of the signing of the new military accord between Romania and the Russian Federation, Corneliu Vadim Tudor, president of the Greater Romania Party [PRM] said the following: "I believe we should become more active, but should also display more prudence, with all political forces in Romania doing their best to ensure that we are not going to create enemies for nothing. It would be an aberration for the current Romanian policy to ignore the huge military powers in the East—I am referring not only to Russia, but also to Ukraine, which is the fourth military power in the world from the viewpoint of its military arsenal—and fight them alone. I believe we should have relations of good neighborliness with Ukraine and, by virtue of regional proximity, with Russia, since one cannot disregard these powers in our area. My impression is," C.V. Tudor said, "that the West is still paralyzed by fear of Russia's formidable power. I believe that the Soviet empire should be allowed to die in peace, without terrible spasms that might cause many victims. As far as I am concerned, I am optimistic, despite my reservations. The West should fully assume its responsibilities, otherwise a dramatic situation might develop, which will affect us all.

Melescanu Receives CSCE Minorities Commissioner

AU1908182893 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1647 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 19/8/1993—The second visit to Romania this year of the CSCE high commissioner for minorities Max Van der Stoel occasioned him Thursday, 19 August a meeting with Romania's Minister of Foreign Affairs Teodor Melescanu.

At the close of the talks they had at the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the guest said that his visit was a last fact- finding tour for the report he was supposed to draw up on the situation of ethnic minorities in Romania, and that his report would be part of a ampler report on minorities in the CSCE space.

Foreign Minister Melescanu specified that the high commissioner's report would be presented at the meeting of the CSCE Committee of High Commissioners due for September in Prague. Mr. van der Stoel's report will also make reference to Romania's National Council for Ethnic Minorities which it will recommend to other countries as well.

Contingently, the sides approached Romania's admission to the Council of Europe, upon which the high commissioner expressed his fear that once admitted to the European body Romania's interest in solving minority issues might diminish. In reply, Foreign Minister Melescanu said that the structure and the means the European forum commands excluded such a possibility.

Nastase, CSCE Official Discuss Ethnic Minorities' Issues

AU1908144593 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1257 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 19/8/1993—The Chamber of Deputies' Speaker Adrian Nastase met on Thursday with the high commissioner for minorities of the Council for Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), Max van den Stoel.

The guest expressed his satisfaction with respect to the Romanian Government's decision and efforts of finding appropriate solutions to the issues of ethnic minorities in Romania. The guest expressed also his appreciation of the government's Council for Ethnic Minorities.

The CSCE high commissioner said that the report he would present to the CSCE would show the real situation in Romania the way he perceived it, with all the progress made lately.

Government, Trade Unions Resume Talks

AU1908191193 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1758 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 19/8/1993—Thursday afternoon, 19 August, Premier Nicolae Vacaroiu and State Ministers Florin Georgescu, finance, and Dan Mircea Popescu, labour and welfare, jointly analysed with leaders of the largest union confederations—CNSRL [National Confederation of Romania's Free Trade Unions]- Fratia, Cartel Alfa, CERES [Confederation of Agriculture and Catering Employees]—the degree in which the objectives agreed upon in the protocol signed on 6 May 1993 had been achieved.

Union federations representatives made a positive assessment of the way the commitments were met.

The sides agreed to appoint teams of experts from the ministries of labour, finance, the National Statistic Committee and the Trade Union Federations for the purpose of finalising some of the actions agreed upon.

After all the items in the protocol had been examined, at the unions' request, other issues were discussed: funds for scientific research, financing of geological prospections and the wages claims formulated by the Road Workers' Union.

BNS (National Union Bloc) representatives left the meeting before it started.

Article Views Losses Caused to Economy by Rail Strike

AU1808165293 Bucharest ADEVARUL in Romanian 13 Aug 93 p 1

[Daniel Oanta article: "The Price of One Day of Strike at the Romanian National Railroad Company"]

[Text] The strike of the train engineers gravely affects our national economy.

Evaluations made to establish the losses recorded over just one day of strike have revealed that the consequences are horrendous. Here are some of the figures: Transportation of goods has decreased by 350 million tonnes per kilometer net weight per day; Romanian companies are losing $400,000 each day; $50,000 are lost each day owing to the blocking on Romanian territory of foreign railroad carriages and vessels, for which damages and taxes will have to be paid in hard currency; iron and steel, chemical, and energy producing plants are short of raw materials and spare parts, and consequently will have a diminished turnout; the population cannot be appropriately supplied with staples. To all this one should add the fact that commuter employees—the total number of which is about 1 million—cannot go to work, owing to which the production process is gravely affected all over the country.

Negritoiu Chairs Meeting on Economic Restructuring Program

AU1908144393 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1250 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 19/8/1993—Minister of State Misu Negritoiu, president of the Council for Economic Coordination, Strategy, and Reform, had on Thursday a meeting with representatives of the ministries and institutions involved in the promotion of investments, [economic] restructuring, and privatization.

The committee analyzed the stage of the REPEDE program—[acronym based on the Romanian words for] restructuring, privatization, and development—which is financed by the commission of the European Community. The 70 million ecu's [European Currency Units] worth of nonrefundable loan is meant to finance the development of the private sector and the restructuring process.

The REPEDE (also being the Romanian word for "fast") program will support the establishment of the restructuring agency. It will also finance some important investments which should yield new funds in the future to be used in the financing of other new projects.

The 70 million ecu allotted by the EEC commission in 1993 will be supplemented with other 30 million ECU in 1994, under the conditions of a reforming economic policy promoted by the government.

Manolescu Considers Split Within PAC 'Normal'

AU1908182593 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 17 Aug 93 p 3

[Part one of interview with Nicolae Manolescu, president of the Civic Alliance Party, PAC, by Mihail Mihailescu; place and date not given: "Each Party Has Its Own Political Audience"]

[Excerpts] [Mihailescu] Why and how did you become involved in politics?

[Manolescu] I got involved in stages. First, I labored under the illusion that I would be able to continue my job as professor and literary critic even better than before. But then I had to realize that this was not possible due to the lack of a Romanian political class. [passage omitted] Basically, I decided to get into politics because it looked to me immoral to give advice from the sidelines, without becoming involved. I became one of the founders of the Civic Alliance [AC] and of the Civic Alliance Party [PAC]. [passage omitted]

[Mihailescu] Is (or was) PAC a party of elitist intellectuals?

[Manolescu] All parties were created by intellectuals, even the social democratic parties that later turned into communist parties. The majority of activists in all parties, except for the communist parties, were also intellectuals. [passage omitted] PAC has among its members some of the country's greatest intellectuals. But it cannot address itself exclusively to the intellectuals. Since you mention the word elitism, well, we must clearly emphasize that we obviously are an elite, since we have several dozen nationally renowned intellectuals and several hundred true intellectuals among our ranks, but this does not mean that we are exclusively addressing ourselves to the intellectuals. We are striving, as much as we can, to address our message to broader categories of people. But this does not mean that we address ourselves to everyone. [passage omitted] Each party will eventually find the pubic segment to which it can primarily address its message, despite the fact that all parties are obliged also to address themselves to all categories of people, at the same time.

[Mihailescu] What happened and is happening with PAC?

[Manolescu] Unfortunately, PAC was also unable to avoid certain interior convulsions, tensions, and eventually partings. Up to a certain point, this was only normal, since all the parties that have emerged after 1989 had a pretty diffuse ideology and electorate. As far as PAC was concerned, given its origins—it derives from the AC, a movement with a very broad spectrum of support—all kinds of people with nonhomogeneous views joined it. What held them together was of an emotional, rather than doctrinaire, nature. The moment we tried to define our doctrinaire line, differences emerged. [passage omitted] Since a party is made up of people and people have personal interests and different tempers, characteristics, and other features, well, all this led to the emergence of a very aggressive group in PAC, not exceeding 15-20 percent of our members, which wanted to change the party at its own pace, thus disregarding the fact that any party has its own inertia due to its institutional and human composition. Here the break occurred. I still believe that there are no big differences of opinion between those who left and whose who stayed. There were only differences in the assessment of the situation or the pace of evolution. There has never been any essential difference of political opinion between us and those who left. [passage omitted]

At the party congress in Timisoara, 80 percent of the voters spoke out for PAC remaining PAC, that is a party with its own identity, and for preserving its name, regardless of its opening toward the liberal movement, which automatically became very important, since the party was declaring itself liberal. Nevertheless, the dissident group considered the 80 percent who voted in favor of PAC as plebeian, while they, the other 20 percent, imagined themselves to be the "intelligentsia." They tried to drag the party along, but the party simply refused to follow suit.

I, as president, had only one choice: either to adopt the viewpoint of the majority, or, if it did not suit me, to resign. I preferred to stick to the majority viewpoint. [passage omitted] The party chose its own evolution pace, which was different from that advocated by Stelian Tanase and the other dissidents. [passage omitted]

[Mihailescu] Tell us something about your visit to France.

[Manolescu] I visited France with a precise goal, namely to invite Mr. Sequin, speaker of the French National Assembly—on behalf of the Democratic Convention and PAC—to pay a visit to Romania, given the fact that an invitation to this extent has already been extended by Mr. Adrian Nastase, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies. We deemed it necessary to advise the current political leadership in Paris not to repeat the mistake made by Mr. Mitterrand's Socialists and Mr. Mitterrand himself.

We deemed it necessary to draw French attention to the fact that the Romanian opposition has at least 44.5 percent in Parliament, which means almost half the seats. In other words, France should take this opposition into consideration in all contacts or negotiations between France and Romania. [passage omitted]

Foreign Media Bulletin: Balkan Crisis 20 August
WA2008165493

The following is an overview of current FBIS reporting on events in the Balkans. It supplements other FBIS reporting and consists primarily of selected summaries of longer reports. For reference purposes, serial numbers of the longer reports are provided.

SUMMARY

Conference on Yugoslavia cochairmen announce Bosnian peace talks adjourned until 30 August to consider modified peace proposal ... Pale authorities denounce exemption of district from UN protectorate in Sarajevo ... UNHCR spokesman warns financial resources for aid will run out within weeks ... UN convoy reaches Mostar, reportedly blocked from entering Muslim area.

DIPLOMATIC

TALKS ADJOURN UNTIL 30 AUGUST (TANJUG, Belgrade Radio): Conference on Yugoslavia cochairmen announce Bosnian peace talks in Geneva have adjourned for 10 days to allow warring sides to consider modified peace proposal. Belgrade Radio reports that the proposal includes granting Muslims 31 or 32 percent of Bosnian territory. Bosnian President Izetbegovic, according to TANJUG, demands lifting of Sarajevo siege, establishment of "safe haven" in Mostar, granting Muslims in Serbian sandzak region same status enjoyed by Serbs in Croatia. (LD2008141993, LD1908190993, AU1908204293)

PALE AUTHORITIES OPPOSE EXEMPTION (Sarajevo Radio): Pale "war presidency" sends letter to Bosnian delegation at Geneva talks protesting district's exemption from group of Sarajevo municipalities included in agreement on a UN protectorate in the city. (AU2008150593)

HUMANITARIAN AID

UNHCR SAYS AID MONEY RUNNING OUT (AFP): UNHCR spokesman warns money for humanitarian aid in Bosnia will run out "by early October" if additional funding is not provided. (AU1908170093)

AID REACHES MOSTAR; BLOCKED BY CROATS (TANJUG, AFP): TANJUG reports that UN relief convoy reached Mostar for first tiem in two months, but AFP quotes UNHCR spokeswoman as saying that Bosnian Croats refused to let aid into the Muslim area of the city. (AU2008115393)

Serb Forces Issue Statement on Withdrawal From Mount Igman

LD1908210593 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2021 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Belgrade, 19 Aug (TANJUG)—In response to false reports about the withdrawal of the republic of Srpska army from Mounts Igman and Bjelasnica, the main headquarters of the republic of Srpska army issued a statement this evening, saying:

The republic of Srpska army has withdrawn from Igman and Bjelasnica to the positions specified in the agreement between General Hayes, chief of the general staff of UNPROFOR [UN Protection Forces] for the former Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Major General Manojlo Milovanovic, chief of the general staff of the republic of Srpska army.

The UNPROFOR command informed the relevant UN bodies and the cochairmen of the Geneva peace conference about the agreement and the COMPLETED WITHDRAWAL [TANJUG capitalization].

However, the group of famous international publishing houses supporting Alija Izetbegovic today conceived and without problems spread via media the false report claiming that the republic of Srpska army has not withdrawn from Mount Igman. In fact, this report was ordered by Alija Izetbegovic who needed it as an argument for exerting pressure during the Geneva negotiations. He used it to threaten and obstruct the negotiations.

The abovementioned report prompted General Milovanovic to contact the UNPROFOR commander and again ask for the UNPROFOR command's stand on and assessment of the withdrawal of the republic of Srpska army from Igman and Bjelasnica. He talked to Colonel Armstrong and their conversation has been recorded. Col. Armstrong said that the report was false and incorrect, that he had personally been on Igman, and did not see the republic of Srpska army's soldiers where the reports spread by Alija Izetbegovic and his paid journalists and publishing houses claim them to be.

We have available a piece of information testifying that Alija Izetbegovic, lacking other proof, used this as a reason to obstruct the negotiations, and that during the night he will invent a new reason about which he will inform the paid journalists and publishing houses which will then make it public in Geneva tomorrow and blackmail other sides in the conflict.

UN Confirms Withdrawal

LD2008000993 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2332 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Belgrade, Aug 19 (TANJUG)—The Bosnian Serb Army Command on Thursday [19 August] denied reports in some international media that Bosnian troops are still deployed on Mts Igman and Bjelasnica overlooking Sarajevo. This has been confirmed by Colonel Armstrong of the U.N. Bosnia-Herzegovina Command, who said on Thursday that such reports were not true and that he had personally seen that there were no more Bosnian Serb troops on Mt Igman, as alleged by Bosnian Moslem leader Alija Izetbegovic and some papers biased in his favour.

The Bosnian Serb Army Command said that the media which support Izetbegovic had carried a fabricated story that the Bosnian Serbs had not witwhdrawn from Mt Igman to give Izetbegovic a tool for exerting pressure at the other two sides at the Geneva peace talks and obstructing the negotiating process.

UNPROFOR Taking Over

AU1908191693 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Report by the Information Service of the 1st Corps of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army]

[Text] The Igman battlefield today resembles an exhibition field for UN Protection Forces [UNPROFOR] vehicles, which are persistently visiting all the critical positions from which the Serbo-Montenegrin occupying troops have not withdrawn yet.

[UNPROFOR commander for Bosnia-Herzegovina] General Briquemont also visited the Command of the 1st Corps, claiming that the aggressor's troops have fully withdrawn from Mt. Igman and Mt. Bjelasnica. After brief argued testimonies by the representatives of this command, the general himself admitted that the Serbo-Montenegrin conquerors of foreign territories have not withdrawn from Babin Do.

This was primarily an opportunity for some friendly persuasion in which it could be concluded that Briquemont cared very much to proclaim as quickly as possible that the aggressor's troops have withdrawn completely from the disputed positions. This impatience on behalf of the UNPROFOR representatives proved to be stronger than the truth, but subsequently they nevertheless unwillingly acknowledged the fact that the withdrawal has not been fully completed yet.

The situation on all defense lines and points of contact with the enemy on the Igman battlefield has been very peaceful, disregarding the provocative fire from an antiaircraft machine gun coming from Golo Brdo on Mt. Igman.

In this way, Mt. Igman is starting to resemble itself again—a wonderful, forested mount with clearings full of ripe raspberries.

First UN Convoy in Two Months Reaches Mostar

LD1908185393 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1818 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Belgrade, August 19 (TANJUG)—A U.N. relief convoy, the first in two months, on Thursday [19 August] reached the embattled Herzegovina town of Mostar.

At the same time, Croat-Moslem clashes continued unabated in central Bosnia.

The convoy entered the Croatian part of Mostar and negotiations are under way for the convoy to enter the Moslem part of the town, according to REUTER. The negotiations are held in the Croatian-controlled town of Medjugorje, near Mostar, REUTER specified.

U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) Director of Civil Affairs Cedric Thornberry said he was doing all he could to ensure aid for the Moslem part of Mostar. Thornberry said that both the Croatian and Moslem parts of the town had been greatly damaged.

Fighting has continued in Mostar. Explosions of mortar shells were heard in the town on the night of August 18-19, the Croatian radio said on Thursday. The same source on Thursday reported about Croat-Moslem battles in central Bosnia. The Moslem army is constantly bringing reinforcements from Bugojno, so new Moslem attacks can be expected, while Moslems launched large-scale attacks in the area of Kiseljak and Novi Travnik, the Croatian radio said.

Croats Reportedly Block Convoy

AU2008115393 Paris AFP in English 1125 GMT 20 Aug 93

[Text] Geneva, Aug 20 (AFP)—Bosnian Croats Friday [20 August] refused to let an aid into the Moslem area of Mostar, in southwestern Bosnia-Hercegovina, going back on a promise made only a day earlier, a UNHCR spokeswoman said here.

The escorted U.N. convoy was turned back by the Bosnian Croat Army (HVO) before being able to cross a river into the eastern Moslem sector, home to 35,000 people.

Sylvana Foa, spokeswoman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees said: "They were told it was not safe and they could not go."

Croat forces are battling the mainly Moslem Bosnian Army in the city.

The convoy arrived in Mostar Thursday, carrying desperately needed medical aid which was taken to the main hospital in the Croat-controlled west of the city.

It was the first time in two months that aid had gotten through and was only authorised after talks between the U.N. Protection Forces' civilian affairs director Cedric Thornberry and Bosnian Croat forces chief Jadranko Prlic. And assurances were made that the convoy would be allowed into the Moslem sector on Friday.

Foa said UNHCR staff reported Thursday that "the situation in the Croat section was really atrocious and on that basis we can imagine what it's like in the Moslem section, but we don't have any reports."

Elsewhere, the HVO was still refusing permission Friday to a UNHCR convoys trying to deliver aid to Sarajevo, Jablanica and Zenica, Foa said.

She added that 125 tonnes of diesel fuel loaded on five lorries was still waiting permission to enter Sarajevo.

UNPROFOR, HVO Delegations Hold Talks in Mostar

LD1908173793 Mostar Croatian Radio Herzeg-Bosna in Serbo-Croatian 1600 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] A top-level delegation of the UN peace forces in former Yugoslavia, headed by Mr. Cedric Thornberry, the UNPROFOR [UN Protection Forces] director of civil affairs, held talks in Mostar today with a delegation of the Croatian Defense Council [HVO] of the Croatian community of Herzeg-Bosna, led by Kresimir Zubok. The talks focussed on the topical situation, the humanitarian aspect of the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, particularly in Mostar, and in central Bosnia.

HVO officials informed Mr. Thornberry and his aides about the Croatian side's lasting commitment to cooperation with international peace and humanitarian organizations, and at the same time voiced their expectation that UNPROFOR and other UN groups operating in the area would in future show more effectiveness.

HVO Repels Muslim Offensives in Gornji Vakuf Area

LD1908140093 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Report by correspondent Zdenko Vranjes]

[Excerpts] This morning, Croatian Defense Council [HVO] units repelled infantry and artillery attacks on the villages of Galicnice, Podgradje, Vilic Polje, and Rajice near Gornji Vakuf. Fighting is still in progress in this area. There has also been fighting in the town of Gornji Vakuf itself but the frontline remained unchanged. Muslim forces continue to bring in reinforcements from Bugojno so that even stronger Muslim attacks are expected in the area.

Muslims have also launched major attacks around the villages of Radar and Brezova Kosa near Kiseljak. [passage omitted]

Cedric Thornberry, UN Protection Forces [UNPROFOR] director for civil affairs, is staying in Mostar today. He is holding talks with HVO President

Jadranko Prlic, discussing the status of civilians in Mostar and the movement of humanitarian convoys.

UNPROFOR Says Serbs Fired Mortar Bombs at Dobrinja

AU1908192093 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 19 Aug 94

[Text] The shells that killed two and injured 18 civilians two days ago had been fired from the positions of the Serbian aggressor's army in Nedjarici, journalists were told at the UN Protection Forces [UNPROFOR] headquarters today.

The investigation carried out by the UNPROFOR expert team clearly showed that six 82-mm mortar bombs had been fired from the aggressor's positions in Nedjarici. The results of the investigation were forwarded to the Bosnia-Herzegovina authorities and to the Serbian side.

Army Reports Ethnic Cleansing of Grabska Near Ljubuski

AU1908193193 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] We continue to receive tragic reports from Herzegovina about the ethnic cleansing of Muslim villages carried out by the extremists within the Croatian Defense Council [HVO].

During the last few days, the last Muslim village of Gradska near Ljubuski has definitely been ethnically cleansed. All men over 15 were captured and imprisoned in Mostar heliport camp, the press center of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Army reports.

Silajdzic Interviewed on Geneva Peace Talks

LD2008102793 London ITV Television Network in English 1800 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Interview with Foreign Minister Haris Silajdzic by announcer Zeinab Badawi; Silajdzic in Geneva, Badawi in London; from the "Channel 4 News" broadcast—live]

[Text] [Badawi] Joining us now live from Geneva is the Bosnian Foreign Minister Haris Silajdzic. Mr. Silajdzic, the Bosnian president says he's not satisfied with the deal struck over Sarajevo. What's unacceptable about it?

[Silajdzic] I don't think he said that it's unacceptable; maybe he is not completely satisfied with it. But that concerns only the administration of Sarajevo. What we are concerned with is the situation in Sarajevo, and quite a different subject, and that is the lifting of the siege of Sarajevo; that was an agreement. NATO said lifting of the siege without delay; now Sarajevo is still besieged; people are still killed, starved; there is very little water, very little electricity, and very little gas, on about 400,000 people. So lifting of the siege of Sarajevo is the crucial point here.

[Badawi] Do you also have reservations about the future UN administration of Sarajevo?

[Silajdzic] I think it's now a very broad deal, and I think if the UN is prepared to administer Sarajevo for some time, if it was going to save lives, if it was going to bring peace, then why not. But there will be many details to be settled before the administration begins.

[Badawi] In the long run, Mr. Silajdzic, do you believe that Sarajevo will remain an open undivided city?

[Silajdzic] Well, Sarajevo has been an open and undivided city for hundreds of years, and I hope that the civilized world will help us keep it that way. We won't build another Berlin wall at the end of the 20th century, I hope.

[Badawi] But do you think it will remain undivided?

[Silajdzic] I think so, and I hope so. Maybe it's wishful thinking. As I said, with a little help of the civilized world it will remain open and undivided.

[Badawi] Let's look beyond the issue of Sarajevo. What in general terms is the Bosnian Government's problems with the maps under discussion in Geneva?

[Silajdzic] Well, simply said, some proposals, especially coming from the aggressor's side, do give the territories, the genocide areas, upon which crimes were perpetrated, those areas are according to this proposal given to the perpetrators of these crimes. So, people killed people and expelled people and then owned their places. I don't think that's acceptable. I don't think the civilized world can accept that.

[Badawi] Some of the Bosnian Government's critics would argue that you are merely stalling in the negotiations in order to continue with your offensive in central Bosnia.

[Silajdzic] Well, that's quite cynical, I may say; 200,000 people have been killed in Bosnia. If anyone needs peace, it is the Bosnians who need peace. There is no offensive in Central Bosnia, and talking about that, the world should turn the attention to the town of Mostar now where about 50,000 people are literally dying without food and water right now. In other cities in southern Bosnia 15,000 people are kept in inhuman conditions in concentration camps, and we hope that the UNHCR and the Red Cross will go there soon and discover the truth about it.

[Badawi] At the end of the day, Mr. Silajdzic, does the Bosnian Government have the capability to reject any deal struck by the Serbs and Croats over dividing Bosnia?

[Silajdzic] It's not about capability. I think it's about basic justice, fairness, and decency. We cannot accept war criminals on the areas on which they killed people and actually committed genocide. That is about justice, not about capability.

[Badawi] Mr. Silajdzic in Geneva, thank you.

Serb Krajina, UN Delegations Discuss Cease-Fire

LD1908124393 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1102 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Plitvice, 19 Aug (TANJUG)—Talks on a cease-fire agreement in the conflict between Croatia and Krajina between delegations of the United Nations and the republic of Serb Krajina [RSK] began in Plitvice at approximately 1100 today.

Before the talks Deputy Cochairman of the Geneva Conference on Yugoslavia Knut Vollebaek said that as far as the United Nations is concerned the Erdut agreement is still valid.

His colleague, Ambassador Geerd Ahrens, voiced both a cautious optimism and scepticism in connection with the eventual positive outcome of the cease-fire talks because, as he said, there is still a long way ahead of us.

The standpoint of the Krajina delegation, put forward by president of the RSK Goran Hadzic, is that the Serbian side cannot accept anything less than the Erdut agreement. However, for the sake of peace he expressed readiness for the negotiating process to continue through the UN mediation because of its authority.

The UN delegation also includes the head of UN Protection Forces [UNPROFOR] military observers and (?General) Bo Pellnaes; Krajina Prime Minister Djordje Bjegovic and the Commander of the RSK army, Brigadier General Mile Novakovic, are also in the Krajina delegation.

Hadzic on Talks

AU1908185293 Belgrade RTB Television Network in Serbo-Croatian 1730 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Report by Danko Peric from Plitvice]

[Text] [Begin recording] [Peric] After the first round of the Plitvice talks, their protagonists stated that the talks were conducted on the basis of last week's proposal of an agreement from Geneva and that the Serbian side will reply by tomorrow whether it will embrace the agreement that includes everything that the earlier Erdut agreement defined.

The Krajina representatives, who were led by president of the republic [of Serb Krajina] Goran Hadzic, doubt that the Croatian side would fulfill the basic condition for a cease-fire, which is the withdrawal of troops.

[Hadzic] We expect that some technicalities of the Erdut agreement will be further elaborated. We shall not accept less than the Erdut agreement to our detriment. We believe that Croatia, unfortunately, will probably not observe the Erdut agreement. However, we will make an additional step toward peace. I am emphasizing peace, because we believe that the war option is the last resort and there is no need to chose the war option unless this is inevitable.

[Peric] Why is the Erdut agreement not believed to be sufficient?

[Krajina Prime Minister Bjegovic] You know, a document that we have proposed contains the entire Erdut agreement. There is annex A where everything is contained. Therefore, the Erdut [agreement] has been incorporated into this document, we have only expanded it a little. [end recording]

Wounded Croats on Hunger Strike in Split

LD2008102393 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1000 GMT 20 Aug 93

[Text] Some wounded Croats from Bosnia-Herzegovina who are being treated in a hospital in Split have been on a hunger strike since this morning. They say they want to draw the attention of the world public to numerous wounded Croats in central Bosnia who have no medical assistance and no medicines. The wounded Croats stress that the world community takes care only of the Muslims, while the Croats receive almost no assistance. They also stress that there are also wounded little girls among the Croats, and demand that the world community treat the Croats and Muslims in the same way, and urgently send medical supplies to Croatian military hospitals in central Bosnia.

* Herzegovinans Gain Influence in Croatia

93AE0557A London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 2 Aug 93 p 11

[Report by As'ad Taha]

[Text] Zagreb—Within the framework of Croatia's direct support to the Croats in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Mate Boban, president of the separatists Croatian entity known as Herzeg-Bosna, announced the appointment of General Slobodan Praljak as chief of staff of the "Croatian Defense Council." This means he must resign from his current position as a deputy defense minister in Croatia. During an interview with Zagreb television a week ago, General Praljak was asked about the reason for his adoption of the "Herzog-Bosna" emblem, in spite of the fact that he is an official of the Croatian Government. His answer was, "I was born in Herzeg. I feel that the Croatian Defense Council needs me. That is why I asked President Tudjman to permit my retirement so that I would be able to play a role within the ranks of the Croatian Defense Council."

Lately, Croatian media circles have attached increasing importance to what is labeled as "the gradual growth of the Herzeg trend." This trend includes the Croatian politicians who are originally from Herzegovina in the Bosnian republic. The interest is due to the fact that this faction places pressure on the Croatian President Franjo Tudjman to sign agreements with the Serbian side that would allow Croatia to annex Bosnian territory that has a majority Croatian population in order to revive "the banovina of Croatia." This state came into existence in

1939 as greater Croatia and included about forty percent of Bosnia-Herzegovina's territory.

This Herzeg trend is headed by dignitaries that play an important role in politics—such as defense minister Gojko Susak, who is considered the second man in Croatia. Ivic Pasalic, chairman of the executive committee of the governing party and Ante Beljo, chairman of the Croatian expatriate federation. A high percentage of Croatians who emigrated to Europe and the United States after World War II form a faction that supports the "Herzeg lobby" both morally and financially. It is noteworthy that the minister of defense himself was an immigrant in Canada, where he owned a pizza restaurant in Ottawa. He became a member of the Croatian organization in Canada and later took over its leadership. Later on, he returned to Croatia and joined the Croatian Christian Democratic Union, the current governing party. He became famous in the political arena in 1991 when he was appointed minister of emigration and then minister of defense. However, one faction in the opposition thinks otherwise and claims that President Tudjman is not under the influence of this Herzeg trend but rather is its advisor. They use as evidence many incidents that took place a long time ago before the tension in the area. For example, Tudjman replaced five chairmen of his party's branch in Bosnia-Herzegovina before he appointed Mate Boban. He also appointed six different foreign ministers and got rid of them for their opposition to his policy towards Bosnia in particular. One of them is Marcic who said in the United States that it is necessary to recognize the independence of Bosnia before Croatia does so under U.S. pressure. Another former foreign minister is Separovic who warned that the partition of Bosnia would be a catastrophe for Croatia.

Tudjman followed the same policy with other officials. He fired everyone who opposed his policy towards Bosnia: Croatian prime ministers, former Defense Minister Martin Spegelj, and former Army Chief of Staff Anton Tus for their position towards unified Bosnia. According to his opposition, Tudjman resorted to physical liquidation. There was an assassination attempt against Blaz Kraljevic, former head of the Croatian special militia known as Hos, leader of the Bosnian army, and a member of the opposition to Tudjman.

The Croatian president has appointed people who either are in total agreement with his foreign policy or those who do not pose any pressure on him or a threat to his position. An example is the current speaker of the Parliament, Mr. Stjepan Mesic, who defends the unity of Bosnia-Herzegovina. In spite of all of this, it is safe to say that all the opposition parties—starting from the extreme left to the extreme right and including the moderate parties such as the Croatian Social-Liberal Party whose chairman is the opposition leader of the Croatian Peagants Party which agreed in 1939 with the Serbs on the partition of Bosnia-Herzegovina—agree on opposing Tudjman's policy that calls for partitioning Bosnia-Herzegovina. The leaders of this party claim that the situation in 1939 is completely different from the current one.

The independents and some of the prominent personalities oppose Tudjman's policy toward Bosnia and consider his statements calling for paying attention to the Croats in Bosnia-Herzegovina highly suspicious, especially since he does not defend the rights of the Croats who live in the Montenegro, Kosovo, or Vajvodina.

The opposition to Tudjman includes a long list of expatriot Croats, especially those who are members of the International Croatian Association [MHI], headquartered in London. It describes the policy of Tudjman as shameful.

The Catholic Church in both Croatia and Bosnia opposes Tudjman and has many strong positive positions in this respect.

In spite of all of that, it cannot be said that the Croatian opposition is now able to achieve anything in this respect, especially since the situation in Croatia is bad with respect to the economy and to freedoms. Everyone is working and involved in another sphere of interest.

EC To Extend Livestock Export Ban

93BA1351B Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 27 Jul 93 p 6

[Article by R. Arsenic: "The Extended Ban on Meat Imports—A Prelude to Sanctions?"]

[Text] Zagreb, 26 Jul—Croatia has experienced yet another great disappointment delivered by Europe: The permanent Veterinary Committee of the Mission of the European Community has issued a decision extending the ban on imports of livestock and livestock products from Croatia into the countries of the EC. That decision has been in effect since the beginning of March, but at that time the ban was introduced to prevent the penetration of dangerous hoof-and-mouth disease from the countries of East Europe into West Europe.

Croatian assurances that those diseases do not exist in their country did not help, and the decision banning imports has been extended, which will inflict new large losses on this republic. In the past four months, that is, it is estimated that Croatia has lost $50 million because of the ban on exports of livestock and meat.

In Croatia, they interpret this decision of the EC in terms of political pressure on the Republic, and they document this with assertions that hoof-and-mouth disease does not exist in Croatia. In the meantime it has been discovered that infected livestock imported into Europe originated in Bulgaria. However, that seems to be only part of the truth, because this "business" was conducted by Croatian traders. Giorgio Rosetti, a member of the European parliament, made this statement in Zagreb newspapers in this connection:

"The blockade against Croatia has been retained because it was discovered that Croatia imported infected meat from Bulgaria and Serbia and sold it as meat from Croatia. This was done by a few small merchants in Croatia, who thereby inflicted an immense loss on their country. Your government can easily find out who they are if it wishes. Those small merchants, with certain Italian merchants and with the help of falsified documents, have done Croatia a disservice."

However, it appears that this is not the only reason why the ban has been extended for Croatia, but that this is a kind of overture for sanctions against the Republic because of its behavior in the resolution of the Yugoslav crisis, especially on the soil of Bosnia-Herzegovina. That same Italian parliament member, says:

"It seems that a recent meeting of the Ministerial Council in which Croatia was given bad marks was decisive. The blockade was kept in place as one kind of political pressure on Croatia. That might even be a prelude to adoption of sanctions against Croatia. That decision is adverse for Croatia, but also for Italy. The next occasion to amend it probably will not come before September."

This is being confirmed almost daily by the views of the Croatian opposition to the effect that the reputation of this republic, thanks to its current regime and its policy, has been dropping steadily in the world, which recently began to be admitted even by individuals in the government, but this has still had no impact toward changing that policy.

Jansa Replies to Prosecutor Inquiries in Arms Scandal

AU1908182493 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 1330 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Defense Minister Janez Jansa today replied to the message by the Maribor higher public prosecutor's office and some claims made by the investigation judge, and indirectly also to yesterday's news conference by Justice Minister Miha Kozinc. Here is a summary of the minister's comprehensive reply:

Concerning the ambiguities as to when and how the defense minister was summoned to be questioned as a witness at the Maribor Municipal Court in the investigation of the arms cache discovered at Maribor Airport, Jansa said that he had learned of being supposedly interrogated on 24 July from the newspapers; however, he had not yet received the summons. In a telephone conversation of 6 August he and investigation judge Bezjak agreed on interrogation on 9 August. Jansa on that occasion voiced doubts about the manner of summoning and the direction of the investigation.

The minister admitted that he arrived at the court after a 38-minute delay. The judge and the prosecutor were, thus, not in the office. He and investigation judge Marko Bezjak held informal talks, which lasted for slightly less than an hour, in which Minister Jansa explained how and on what legal basis the trade and transport of arms has been going on in Slovenia since independence.

The investigation judge literally said that this was an entirely new dimension for him and that he would officially request a written explanation from the Defense Ministry. The talk with the investigation judge was the main reason for Minister Jansa to explain the legal basis concerning the arms in Slovenia at the news conference the following day, as his impression was that the judge, also, believed that the issue was not legally regulated.

Higher prosecutor Pozar justified the need for Jansa's testimony by saying that it was in the interest of the investigation that the minister substantiate his claims about the arms with the facts, with which he was familiar, as he had claimed to the press.

The defense minister emphasized that all the information, including the name of suspect Silvo Komar, was presented at the news conference at the airport and forwarded to the crime prevention squad, which then passed the documentation to the court. It is, therefore, unusual for the higher prosecutor to quote newspapers and not the official documents. The claims that only the defense minister knew of the circumstances in which the special military unit acted are blatant lies as there was no special military unit present at Maribor airport. This also constitutes insinuation that it was possible to tamper [dekonzervirati] with the arms discovered from the time of their discovery until the arrival of the investigation judge. It is clear to any layman, Minister Jansa said, that not even the special unit could have carried this out without being noticed.

In connection with the claims by the higher prosecutor that the judicial organs need to be told why the military intelligence service—as the service responsible for the deals with combat arms [vojasko orozje]—failed to discover the illegal activities of the civilian intelligence service for such a long time, the minister replied that it was not the military intelligence service or any other Defense Ministry service that had discovered the arms at Maribor airport. The military intelligence service is not responsible for combat arms, that is to say, criminal acts connected with them. This is the responsibility of security guards, the crime squad, and the military police, at the initial stage. The military intelligence service does not have the legal powers to supervise any domestic civilian intelligence service. The culprits for the late discovery of the arms at Maribor airport should, therefore, be sought elsewhere.

The defense minister in the final part of his reply established that the Maribor court released the suspects from custody despite the fact that they did not make any statements and that the investigation has not been completed yet, and that the possibility of influencing witnesses, therefore, exists.

The message by the higher prosecutor doubtlessly confirmed that the prosecutor is primarily interested in the fact of how the illegal action was discovered. Bearing in mind that the suspects have the right to see the case file [sodni spis], there is nothing easier than reading this in the file, naturally, after those who could tell it have been questioned as witnesses. What could then happen to the informers and the prosecution witnesses? Bearing in mind that all the suspects are at large, this is not difficult to imagine, the defense minister said.

Jansa said that after the discovery of the Maribor arms cache he himself had received some clear hints and serious threats in the Slovene language. All the events following the discovery of arms at Maribor airport were an expected and well-known scenario for Minister Jansa. The one who had pointed at [former Slovene Presidency member] Zlobec's betrayal of a top state secret was accused of illegal use of data; the one who had disclosed the crime in Hit is standing accused in the court today; the one who had pointed at the role of the former tourism minister in the murky dealings with Hit was accused of illegal acquisition of data; the one who had warned of unlawful privatizations was accused of opposing the market economy; those who had demanded that the names of politicians who cooperated with UDBA [former State Security Service] be published were accused of violating human rights. Now, the one who has demanded a thorough and prompt investigation into arms crime is accused of exerting pressure upon, quote, the independent judiciary, Defense Minister Janez Jansa concluded in his reply to the statement by the higher Maribor prosecutor.

Defense Ministry Denounces General Kolsek

93BA1344A Ljubljana DELO in Slovene 29 Jul 93 p 1

[Article by V. V.: "Defense Ministry Filed Charges Against General Kolsek"]

[Text] Ljubljana, 28 Jul—Today the Defense Ministry filed criminal charges with the Ljubljana basic prosecutor's office against Konrad Kolsek, Colonel General in the Yugoslav Army, the former commander of the Fifth Military District, because of the justified suspicion that he committed the criminal act of serving in an enemy army.

This is a criminal act under the first paragraph of article 119 of the SFRY [Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia] Criminal Code, which is reasonably being used as a republic regulation on the basis of the first paragraph of article 4 of the Constitutional Law on Implementing the Basic Constitutional Document on the Autonomy and Independence of the Republic of Slovenia. Konrad Kolsek is allegedly justifiably suspected on that basis of having served, as a Slovene citizen, in an enemy army, and participating in the war against Slovenia.

The explanation for the charges says that during the period after Slovenia became independent, Konrad Kolsek, as the commander of the Yugoslav Army's Fifth Military District, undoubtedly served in an enemy army. The proof offered by the Defense Ministry is the ultimatum that Konrad Kolsek sent on 27 June 1991 to Lojze Peterle, then president of the Executive Council, in which Kolsek informed him "that the assignment of the Fifth Military District is to take over all border crossings and protect the SFRY's state border." That document says that in doing so, the Army counted on the cooperation of all Slovene authorities and inhabitants. "We will carry out the assignment unconditionally, which means that we will also proceed according to the rules for the combat use of units. Any resistance will be crushed, and those who gave the orders and those who carried them out will be responsible for the consequences."

Furthermore, Kolsek sent telegrams to all the units of the Fifth Military District ordering the highest level of combat readiness, and in the event of an attack by the enemy, he demanded that they cause maximum losses among the enemy (Territorial Defense); according to his order, all waverers and those who tried to desert or surrender were to be jailed.

July Inflation Rate Less Than One Percent

93BA1344B Ljubljana DELO in Slovene 29 Jul 93 p 1

[Article by I. P.: "Prices a Mere Percent Higher in July"]

[Text] Ljubljana, 28 Jul—The custom for three years that inflation in July is lower than in June also continued this year.

Specifically, the Slovene Statistics Institute announced this afternoon that according to its calculations, Slovene retail prices increased by 0.8 percent this July in comparison with June's prices, 24.6 percent higher than last July's, and 12 percent higher than last December.

After the relatively large, 3.6 percent price increases in January, the monthly price increases were reduced by April, since the official price increases in April were "only" 1 percent. May once again brought a stronger growth in prices, since they increased again then by 1.4 percent, and in June by 1.5 percent.

Federal

Small Denomination Coins, Notes To Be Withdrawn

LD2008095593 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0900 GMT 20 Aug 93

[Text] Belgrade, 20 Aug (TANJUG)—As of 10 September this year, small denomination coins and some bank notes will cease to be the legal means of payment, the National Bank of Yugoslavia has announced today.

A statement says that this refers to the coins of one, two, five, 10, and 50 dinars minted in 1992, and to the bank notes of 100 and 500 dinars, also printed in 1992.

The National Bank of Yugoslavia will exchange the coins and bank notes between 11-30 September this year.

Firms on Strike, Workers' Demands Listed

93BA1350B Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 27 Jul 93 p 7

[Article by Marija Petric: "Even the Trade Union Is No Longer Counting the Strikes"]

[Text] At a time when it is difficult to distinguish even who is working and who is just being counted among the employed, it is no easier to explain whether there are any conventional worker strikes in our country either. A sizable number of sociologists, economists, and politicians warn that at the moment there is a greater danger of social rebellions and unrest that could rally the dissatisfied on various grounds than of ordinary factory strikes....

Nevertheless, there are strikes. To be sure, the trade unions (of Serbia and Yugoslavia) are no longer collecting data on stoppages. Today, all the skill of trade union activity is directed toward negotiation (with the government and the Chamber of Commerce) about what comprises the market basket, how much money is needed to purchase that slimmer and slimmer little basket, and the battle for all employed persons to get social assistance in the amount of 70 million dinars.... It seems, however, that many collectives are in fact deciding to strike because of these union-government achievements.

The longest protest of employed people this summer has certainly been in the Federal Flight Control Administration, which began back on 15 June. The controllers asked for their earnings to be indexed to the rise of the cost of living and sought more decent wages, but the government, as their employer, took pains at the outset not to notice the strike, not even when it turned into a hunger strike.

In a duel which is not over, the controllers are for now the only losers, and there are no winners: The government, that is, has lost amounts in the millions (of dollars) in uncollected fees for overflights of foreign aircraft.

And the Montenegrin railroad workers have in past days been measuring their strength against the government as employer. Those injured most directly were the passengers, and the issue was laid to rest temporarily by invoking the labor obligation. Whether that will also be the end of the strike of 18,000 miners at the Kolubara REIK [Mining, Electrical, and Industrial Combine] we still do not know. Their trade union is demanding adjustment of the minimum salary, which has lost its value, and otherwise they are announcing darkness.

As for the metalworkers, whose anger has by tradition caused earlier political administrations to shudder, at the moment, according to Aleksandar Pejakovic, president of the industry's trade union, there are no active strikes. The protest in the automobile factory in Kragujevac (16,000 workers) is on hold at the moment. The workers demanded compensation not paid from the Fund for Minimum Salaries and Invigoration of Production. After last week's meeting of republic officials, among them Nikola Sainovic, the tardy money arrived along with the social assistance of 70 million, and 11 demands of the strikers are on ice for the moment.

Last week, the workers of Sloboda in Cacak also went on strike, demanding adjustment of the June minimum salary, prompt payment of earnings, protection against transformation of ownership.... Here again, the money arrived, according to the explanation of the republic trade union of metalworkers, but members of the independent (nezavisni) trade union are still striking, demanding that the June price of labor be 400 million dinars. The strike has also been "calmed down" at Krusik in Valjevo, where it all began with dissatisfaction because of low pay, but officially because the Settlement Agency there did not have cash to make payment. To be sure, in one section of the factory, the one engaged in special-purpose production, they expect a meeting soon with federal officials so as to learn the future of various production programs which are financed from the budget.

In textile, leather, and footwear factories, there is a truce, that is, there is no active strike headquarters. According to Milanka Stankovic, president of the trade union of those industries, a large number of workers are on mandatory leave, some are on regular vacation, and those who are working have other problems. The directors in particular, she says, heard over television the announcement about 70 million dinars in assistance, they are calling up the trade union and asking where they should apply for that money, because they figured that that money was being granted from some special treasury.

If there are no really classic strikes worked out in accordance with all the rules, there are announcements of interruptions of work. How otherwise to explain the recent warning of the independent (nezavisni) trade union of the municipal transportation enterprise that their vehicles are so unsafe that in practical terms the traveler himself is taking a risk when he gets into those

vehicles. The peasants in Vojvodina are announcing they will block the roads because the price of grain is unacceptable.... Mandatory leave also began for 11 of the leading meat factories in Vojvodina because they did not have raw materials, and production has been shut down by five Serbian fruit syrup factories because they are producing losses at present prices.

No one knows for sure whether the mood will change to that of strikers among them, but also others with the same problems.

Serbia

Private Firm Decides To Sue State

93BA1351D Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 26 Jul 93 p 13

[Article by B. Gulan: "Smuggling Under the Law"]

[Text] Dragoljub Svonja of Novi Sad, who owns the private firm Agropanonka, has decided to sue the state of Serbia because the financial police from the capital of Vojvodina first confiscated his goods illegally and then sold those same goods in violation of a decision of the federal government for a 12-fold higher price. The aim was to replenish the state budget unlawfully.

What was this actually about?

"I bought 18,400 liters of motor oil from the firm Jugopanonija for resale. In buying the oil, I took into account that the Serbian government had decided that during the sanctions trade could be conducted even with this commodity although I was not registered for such transactions. The transaction was, of course, conducted in order to satisfy the demand on the market. When the Public Trade Agency of Vojvodina made a check, they found the transaction to be legal, because it had been duly declared," Svonja says. "However, the division of the financial police in Novi Sad made a decision to confiscate that commodity from him. This was a violation of a secret decree of the government of Serbia which permitted those transactions. The price per liter of this oil was 3,177,000 dinars, and I wanted to sell it at a slightly higher price," Svonja says. "However, that was only the beginning of the trouble. I came to the auction to buy this confiscated commodity, because I have priority. I was astounded when the government set the price for me at 40 million dinars per liter, which is all of 12-fold more expensive than what I wanted to sell it for! But it did not end there either. Because these prices are frozen, I could sell that commodity, for which I paid 40 million a liter, only at a price of 3,177,000 dinars. So, I as a merchant think that the government itself is violating the regulations which it had adopted, and is punishing us. If I began again to sell that commodity, it would again take it away from me, and the government would again sell it at I do not know what price. And it goes round and round. I wonder whether some laws apply to the people and others to the government. Is that the only way to replenish the budget? Because of that attitude, I decided to sue the state through my lawyer, and I also apprised Milena Popovic, a member of the commission for sale of that commodity, of these illegal actions; she did not even heed the warnings of her superior, Marko Radosavljevic. So, you see, we billed that same commodity at 40 million a liter and sold it for 624 billion dinars."

"It is obvious that the regulations have been violated by the Revenues Administration in Novi Sad," says Vladimir Horovits, Novi Sad lawyer, who will handle the suit. "After all, if the price is frozen for the public, how can the state sell that commodity at a 12-fold higher price. I think that the main lapse of the state is that it issues these so-called secret decrees. They are for all practical purposes being used to legalize what is not permitted. This is being done in the interest of the state," Horovits says.

Montenegro

'Anti-Belgrade' Shifts Seen Among Montenegrins

PM1908101293 London THE EUROPEAN in English 19-22 Aug 93 p 7

[Report by Dusko Doder in Podgorica: "Montenegro Cools Toward 'Meddling' Partner"]

[Text] There are distinct rumblings of discontent in Montenegro, the tiny mountainous Serb sister republic. When the Serb patriarch arrived here to consecrate a new church last week, he was greeted with whistles and boos of demonstrators shouting: "This is not Serbia. We want a separate church." Such heresy would have been unthinkable a year ago.

Montenegrins—who considerd themselves more Serb than the Serbs—firmly joined their big brother in 1992 to create a new Yugoslav federation. They were solidly with Serbia in the war with Croatia. Indeed, some of the worst destruction and plunder around Dubrovnik was committed by Montenegrin soldiers.

But the Montenegrin marriage with Serbia has been put under severe strain, giving rise to growing pressures for secession from Serbia proper. Montenegrin demands for their own Orthodox church and vehement denunciation of the Serbian Orthodox church for taking part "in the destruction of the Montenegrin state and nation" merely reflect a broader trend in this republic of 600,000 people.

Slavko Perovic, leader of the opposition Liberal Union, is openly secessionist. He is critical of the war in Bosnia. He also wants to free Montenegro from its Serbian mythology. "Only democracy in Serbia can save the Balkans from disaster," he says. "And the only way to get democracy there is for Montenegro to leave the federation and destroy the old dream of a greater Serbia."

A majority of Montenegrins, who are ethnic Serbs in origin, probably still favour some form of federation

with Serbia but the war and UN sanctions have destroyed Montenegro's economy. Tourism, its main source of hard currency, has been devastated. Poverty here is more striking than in Serbia. All have combined to dampen the peoples' enthusiasm for the federation.

Perovic's outright secessionism is one end of the political spectrum. At the other is the ruling Democratic Party of Socialists—former communists—who are gingerly trying to put some distance between themselves and President Slobodan Milosevic's Socialists in Belgrade. Many establishment people are annoyed by what they see as Serbia's big brother attitude. In between are groups demanding a looser federation or insisting that the partnership with Belgrade be on equal terms.

Diplomats who visit Montenegro regularly say that the entire spectrum is clearly shifting in an anti-Belgrade direction and that a careful hand is required. The trend is significant. Montenegro offers Serbia access to the Adriatic Sea. It is a strategic consideration that stands in the way of independence. More significant, however, is a reassessment of Montenegro's historical ties with Serbia which is now underway. "We are sick of Serb nationalism," says one intellectual in Podgorica, formerly Titograd.

For centuries Montenegro embodied the essence of Serb nationalism. In the decades following the Ottoman conquest of Serbia, a number of tribes fled to the Black Mountain—Monte Negro—area where they formed their own primitive state. The Montenegrins saw themselves as the guardians of Serbdom while Serbia proper remained occupied for centuries. This feeling was reflected in the works of Montenegrin writers from Prince-Bishop Peter II Petrovich Njegos nearly two centuries ago to Milovan Djilas today.

One of Djilas's characters sums up the confusion: "I am not a Montenegrin because I am a Serb, but I am a Serb because I am a Montenegrin. We Montenegrins are the salt of the Serbs. All the strength of the Serbs is not here, but their soul is."

Montenegrin-Serb tensions arose in this century. At the end of the First World War, the Serbs entered Montenegro. An election was organised on the country's future. Opponents of a union with Serbia were called the "Greens", while the unionists were called "Whites," after the colours of their lists of candidates. The Whites won, but the outcome has split clans, villages and families ever since. In 1920, by royal decree, the independent Montenegrin Orthodox Church was abolished and absorbed into the Serbia church.

Marshal Tito's Yugoslavia blurred the distinction between the two colours. He made Montenegro a separate republic and declared its people a separate nation. With less than three per cent of the population in Tito's Yugoslavia and producing less than two per cent of GNP, Montenegro carried one sixth of the political muscle.

The collapse of Yugoslavia initially strengthened the pan-Serb Whites. Montenegrin troops took part in the Croatian war, pillaging and plundering the area of southern Dalmatia. Some elements of the press publicly laid claim to Dubrovnik. But the Whites began losing ground in Montenegro, something that the ruling party of President Momir Bulatovic took into account.

With Belgrade paying no attention to the grievances and interests of its partner, Montenegrins are gradually becoming Greener. Bulatovic started building relations with Italy and Albania.

Another thing that upset the Montenegrins was the design of a new ceremonial uniform for the Yugoslav army which was based on the Serb tradition. The Montenegrins, with a tradition of their own, are reported to have insisted on their own regiments wearing their own uniforms.

Yet another source of tension is Belgrade's control over TV. Journalists say that 88 per cent of content comes from Belgrade and Montenegrin material is subject to Belgrade censorship.

There are calls for a referendum on whether Montenegro should get out of the federation. Most Green-leaning people are conscious that a secession would bring war to Montenegro. "We have an occupation army to contend with," says a journalist referring to the Belgrade-dominated army.

Bulatovic's party holds 46 seats in the 84-member parliament while the Liberals have only 13. However, even the strongly pro-Serb people's party, with 14 seats, is complaining about Montenegro's loss of influence. "We are Serbs," said Peoples Party leader Novak Kilibarda, "but we have our own history." Kilibarda is in favour of the referendum and says that if the majority votes against union with Serbia then "we'll get out".

Bulatovic is a key player. Many people in his party are questioning the continuous slide toward catastrophe, rampant unemployment and economic hardship. "We have lost economic links with Croatia and Italy, we have no tourism and some people are getting sick of being dragged along by Serbia's problems," says one official. "The strange thing is that we are not against the Serbs," he said. "We want to have an integrated relationship yet we want to be independent."

Perovic is more cautious. "We must be patient. We don't want war or conflict. Time and history is on our side."

Macedonia

U.S. Troops To Deploy on Border With Yugoslavia

LD1908143593 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1310 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Excerpt] Skopje, 19 Aug (TANJUG)—A decision by the UN Protection Forces commander in the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, Brigadier-General Finn

Thomsen, has been made public in Skopje today. According to his decision, part of the U.S. contingent stationed in Macedonia as blue berets is tomorrow to take over from Swedish soldiers two observer posts at the border with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. [passage omitted]

U.S. Troops To Assume Duties as UN Peacekeepers

AU1908160093 Skopje NOVA MAKEDONIJA in Macedonian 19 Aug 93 p 2

[NOVA MAKEDONIJA report: "Development of U.S. Troops"]

[Text] Yesterday, Brigadier General Finn Saermak Thomsen, Commanding Officer of the UNPROFOR [UN Protection Forces] Macedonia Command, announced his decision that the recently arrived U.S. troops are now sufficiently trained and prepared to assume new duties and responsibilities as peacekeepers along the borders of the Republic of Macedonia, in the area of UNPROFOR operations.

By this decision, which follows a month-long training period, Gen. Thomson has authorised the deployment of a part of the U.S. contigent of the UNPROFOR Macedonia Command to the northern border region of the country. Some of the U.S. troops will move to the northern border, beginning tomorrow, taking over responsibility from Swedish soldiers at two observation posts. The main part of the U.S. contigent will be deployed at the camp on Petrovec Airport, and will be used as a reserve unit that will be sent on assignments together with the Nordic Battalion along the Macedonia-FRY border.

Gen. Thomsen will officially hand over responsibility from the Nordic Battalion commanding officer, Colonel Jan Gunnar Isberg, to the U.S. contigent commanding officer, Lieutenent Colonel Walter Holton.

Interior Ministry Fails To Provide Information on 'Bomb'

AU1908154893 Skopje NOVA MAKEDONIJA in Macedonian 19 Aug 93 p 4

[Report by Z. P.: "Explosive Placed on the Railway?"]

[Text] Yesterday, the public was informed that, near the village Opaje, on the Skopje-Tabanovce railway, a bomb exploded. In spite of all our efforts, we did not succeed in getting official information from the Internal Ministry on this event. According to nonofficial news, it was not an explosion, but the police detected explosives that were not activated, on this line. An official announcement is expected today from the Internal Ministry. On the other hand, the railway traffic on the line Skopje-Tabanovce is as normal.

Mine Defused Near Border

AU1908134593 Skopje MILS-NEWS in English 19 Aug 93

[Unattributed report: "Mine on Railway Track"]

[Text] The expert team of the Macedonian Railway announced that yesterday, an inexpertly laid mine was discovered and defused near the village of Opalje, in the vicinity of Kumanovo near the Macedonian-Serbian border.

This refutes the information from AFP and the Macedonian agency MAKFAKS that an explosion occurred at this place yesterday morning.

The Macedonian Interior Ministry did not announce anything yesterday about this event, with the explanation that it did not have any information of an explosion.

The Macedonian analysts connect the planting of a mine near the Serbian border with the introduction of a passport regime with Serbia on the 23rd of this month, as well as the deployment of Americans on the Macedonian-Serb border.

Two Greek Soldiers Captured on Macedonian Territory

AU1908144493 Skopje MILS-NEWS in Macedonian 19 Aug 93

[Unattributed report: "Two Greek Soldiers Captured at Border"]

[Text] Two days ago, at approximately 0900 an incident occurred on the Macedonian-Greek border, in the region of Dub, near Old Dojran.

The Macedonian Defense Ministry announced that the border patrol of the Macedonian Army captured two Greek soldiers who had entered Macedonian territory.

The Greek soldiers were apprehended and interrogated, and it was determined that it was a matter of wondering over the border line. According to the announcement, they were surrendered to the Greek authorities at the border point Bogorodica.

UNPROFOR [UN Protection Forces] and the CSCE mission have been informed of this incident.

Russia Proposes Establishment of Diplomatic Relations

AU1908151893 Skopje MILS-NEWS in English 19 Aug 93

[Unattributed report: "Establishment of Diplomatic Relations With Russia"]

[Text] The Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaliy Churkin yesterday delivered a note of proposal for the establishment of diplomatic relations to the permanent

diplomatic representative of the Republic of Macedonia to Moscow Tripun Karapetrov.

Russia suggested that the diplomatic relations be established at a level of charge d'affaires.

The Macedonian-Russian official relations will be regarded as established from the moment when the Macedonian side will send a return note to the Russian Foreign Ministry.

Russia officially recognized Macedonia in August last year.

Ministry Counters Opposition to Army Ethnic Mix

AU1908155093 Skopje NOVA MAKEDONIJA in Macedonian 18 Aug 93 p 2

[Announcement of the Ministry of Defense: "VMRO-DPMNE Is Manipulating Public Opinion"]

[Text] The Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Macedonia expresses its gratitude to all individuals, institutions, political parties, and organizations who sent their congratulations on the occasion of the Day of the Army of the Republic of Macedonia.

At the same time, the Ministry of Defense concludes with sorrow that this solemn occasion was once again misused by the VMRO-DPMNE [Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization-Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity] to manipulate public opinion on some situations and conditions in the Army of the Republic of Macedonia.

According to VMRO-DPMNE, contrary to the Defense Law, it is planned to increase the Macedonian Army with 300 Albanian officers, out of which 50 plus 120 officers from the Albanian minority are now being given accelerated training, without regard for professional criteria. Thus, it says, the so-called "national key" is once again back from the old communist model.

We shall not take the liberty of citing motives for the impact on public opinion this party planned to create, and we consider such commentary to be totally unnecessary, because there isn't a quotation from the VMRO-DPMNE announcement that is correct. First, it is not true that 40 plus 120 officers of the Albanian minority are involved; second, there is no such planned contingent of 300 Albanian officers who have to be recruited for the Macedonian Army regardless of professional criteria; third, when professional personnel are recruited for the Army of the Republic of Macedonia national keys and national contingents are not the starting point for the structure of the Army of the Republic of Macedonia.

On the contrary, as an institution of the state of the Republic of Macedonia, the Army of the Republic of Macedonia is founded on the civil rights and responsibilities of its citizens. As such, in its professional composition, under defined professional criteria, it is open and accessible to every citizen.

Therefore, it is a constant concern of the Macedonian Defense Ministry to create conditions for equal opportunities for all citizens wishing to join its ranks. Within this framework, as a part of its concern, from the time of the formation of the Macedonian Army to the present, three continuous courses have been organized at which 89 higher officers and recruits have been or are being trained, with the aim of activating them in the ranks of the Army. Of these there are 23 Albanian officers in all. The others, out of the total number of 89, are Macedonians.

As currently composed, the Army of the Republic of Macedonia has, together with the 23 higher officers in reserve being trained for active service, 89 officers of Albanian origin, accounting for 3.5 percent of the higher officers in the Macedonian Army.

This information reflects the essential constant concern of the authorities to create equal opportunities for all citizens to have access to the ranks of the Army of the Republic of Macedonia regardless of national origin. The information also speaks for itself about who is really insisting on the national collectivization of the Army of the Republic of Macedonia: the VMRO-DPMNE or the Macedonian Ministry of Defense; the collectivization would be fatal not only for the Army, but also for the statehood of the Republic of Macedonia.

It really is unnecessary to comment on the disinformation produced by the VMRO-DPMNE regarding the Army of the Republic of Macedonia.

Kosovo

LDK Protests Detention of Rugova by Serbian Police

AU1908203493 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 2000 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] We are starting the broadcast of today's most important domestic and foreign reports with a communique issued by the Kosova Democratic Alliance [LDK] Presidency regarding the apprehension of chairman of the republic of Kosova Dr. Ibrahim Rugova at the Serbian police station in Prishtina.

The communique states that on Wednesday evening [18 August], after an official dinner with a German delegation made up of Peter Klock, member of the German parliament, and Gerhard Schrembeng [names as heard], charge d'affairs of the German Embassy in Belgrade, the Serbian police stopped the car of the Chairman of the Republic of Kosova Dr. Ibrahim Rugova and two other cars accompanying him. The LDK presidency members Anton Kolaj and Dr. Shaqir Shaqiri were with Chairman Rugova.

Chairman of the Republic of Kosova Dr. Ibrahim Rugova with his associates and those accompanying him were sent to the Second Police Station in Dardania in Prishtina, where he was detained for one hour.

The LDK Presidency considers this action by the Serbian police as a serious provocation against the Albanian people in Kosova. This grave provocation follows the violence and massive state terror of Serbia against Albanians.

We ask the international community to urgently take decisive and energetic steps against the policy of the Serbian aggression in Kosova, which at all costs insists on concoct a conflict of large and tragic consequences for Kosova and the region, the LDK Presidency communique states.

Yugoslav Guard Killed in Ambush on Border With Albania

LD2008001293 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2335 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Podgorica, Aug 19 (TANJUG)—A Yugoslav border guard was killed on Thursday [19 August] when a Yugoslav Army patrol was ambushed on the Yugoslav-Albanian border. The information service of the Yugoslav Army said the attack, in which soldier Stanko Kostic, 18, was killed, took place 300 metres inside Yugoslav territory in the area controlled from the border post of Bobicevici. The second member of the patrol said the unidentified assassin fled the area immediately after he had opened fire.

Several incidents have been reported on the Yugoslav-Albanian border over the past few weeks, with Yugoslav border guards coming under attack from the Albanian side of the border or when Albanians tried to illegally cross over to Yugoslavia.

Rugova Warns of 'Mounting' Serbian Buildup of Forces

AU2008122293 Pristina KOSOVA DAILY REPORT Nr.166 in English 19 Aug 93

[Unattributed report: "President Rugova of Kosova Meets German Bundestag Member"—issued by the Democratic League of Kosova]

[Text] President of the Republic of Kosova Dr. Ibrahim Rugova met yesterday (Wednesday) in Prishtina with Mr. Peter Glos, member of the Executive Committee of the SDP and head of the group his party on central and southeastern Europe issues at the German Bundestag, who was accompanied by Dr. Gerhard Enver (?Schroembgens), Charge d'Affaires of the German Embassy in Belgrade. Participating in the meeting were also senior officials of the Democratic League of Kosova (LDK) - Dr. Fehmi Agani, Mr. Anton Kolaj, Dr. Shaqir Shaqiri and Dr Rexhep Ismajli.

President Rugova briefed the German guests with the most recent situation in Kosova, which as he said, is extremely grave and dangerous, due to a mounting Serbian police and military buildup. "The aim of the increased Serbian violence is to provoke a rebellion of Albanians, which would then be utilized to engineer a conflict. The violence, in addition, aims at intimidating people and making them flee Kosova, as well as to obstruct and eventually ban the activities of the political parties and democratic institutions in Kosova", said Dr. Rugova.

President Rugova reiterated the position of Albanian political parties regarding the political status of Kosova, which has been sanctioned by the will of the people—an independent and neutral state of Kosova. The Republic of Kosova president said that it was urgent that Kosova be placed under international protectorate trusteeship in order to avert a possible conflict and facilitate a negotiated political settlement of the Kosova issue. This is in compliance with preventive diplomacy, President Rugova added.

Taking part in the conversation, senior LDK officials spoke of diverse aspects of the political activism in Kosova. They called for stronger support for the peaceful movement the Kosova Albanians have been pursuing. In this way, they said, the international community would reaffirm its support for peaceful policies rather than the police of force and war.

Albanians Want Kosovo 'Under International Protectorate'

LD1908144593 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1143 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Pristina, 19 Aug (TANJUG)—According to the newspaper BUJKU today, Dr. Ibrahim Rugova, leader of the Democratic Alliance of Kosovo, said during his talks with Bundestag Deputy Peter Glotz, who is visiting Pristina, that "Kosovo should be placed under international protectorate as a matter of urgency."

This would be a "preventive measures to help to remove the danger of a conflict and at the same time the only chance to resolve the issue of Kosovo through political means."

However, BUJKU does not quote Dr. Glotz at all except to say that he will spend two days in Kosovo and Metohija and will talk to the leaders of other political parties and committees rallying Albanians.

Albanians Angered by Macedonian Passport Control

LD1908132293 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1152 GMT 19 Aug 93

[Text] Pristina, 19 Aug (TANJUG)—A decision of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia [FYRM] to introduce passport control at the FYRM state border [with Yugoslavia] has provoked dissatisfaction among Kosovo Albanians and protests by political parties rallying the members of this ethnic group.

The introduction of passport control on the "Macedonia-Kosovo" border, according to the statement of the

Democratic Alliance of Kosovo, "will have negative effects on the life of Albanians from Kosovo, not only because of family and traditional economic ties with Albanians from Macedonia."

The statement warns that passport control will also "increase the tension" in the region because one third of the Albanians from former Yugoslavia live on the territory of Macedonia.

The Society of Kosovo Writers, which rallies only Albanian authors, said that this was "a punishment that threatens the cultural and existential integrity of the Albanians."

The newspaper BUJKU of Pristina is of the opinion that the decision was adopted for practical and security reasons, and because of the congestion at border crossings, but goes on to say that passport control "can neither restrict nor direct the life of the Albanians from both sides of the border."

Ethnic Albanians Ready To Open Illegal Schools

LD2008123593 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1029 GMT 20 Aug 93

[Report by Miljan Vuksanovic]

[Text] Pristina, August 20 (TANJUG)—Some ten days before the beginning of a new school semester, it is becoming increasingly evident that ethnic Albanians in Serbia's southern province of Kosovo-Metohija will organize illegal classes using their own educational programmes and textbooks.

This can be concluded from articles published by local Albanian-language papers as well as from assurances by illegal educational authorities of ethnic Albanians that everything was ready for a new academic year.

The illegal programmes and textbooks now include an even more pronounced separatist aspiration because Kosovo is described there as an independent country and the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia as its occupier.

A strong separatist movement of ethnic Albanians, who make up the majority population in Kosovo but a minority in Serbia and Yugoslavia, has been active in the province for years and its goal has been to annex Kosovo to neighbouring Albania.

The movement does not recognize Serbia's authority in the area of education, which was also the motive for organizing illegal schools in private houses.

Young ethnic Albanians are inspired to hate Serbia, the Serbian people and its culture and stimulated to believe that they live in an (unexisting) Albanian state of Kosovo.

The stamps on the certificates issued by the illegal schools read 'Kosovo republic' where it should be the Republic of Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

All this shows that earlier talks between officials of the Yugoslav and Serbian Ministries of Education and representatives of ethnic Albanians on a common educational programme have yielded no result.

The ethnic Albanian side remained firm in its earlier demands, rejecting even the proposal to use the programme by the Educational Council of Kosovo of three years ago.

Ethnic Albanians boycotted the legal enrolment in secondary schools.

Ethnic Albanians only insist that schools in Kosovo be vacated so that they could organize their own classes in which Serbia and Yugoslavia would not be recognized as their state.

The local Albanian-language paper BUJKU wrote recenty that ethnic Albanian teachers in illegal schools can hardly make their ends meet with wages of around 40 marks.

This piece of information, however, proves that ethnic Albanian teachers, who no longer receive wages from the state budget because they boycott the state which provides those funds, earn twice as much as their Serbian colleagues in this difficult economic situation.

Those wages are partly provided by Albanians in other countries, whom the separatist movement pressures by promising them an independent state although even the governments of some Western countries inclined to Kosovo's Albanians have warned them that they do not have the right to an independent state.

Representatives Ask Red Cross for Air Corridor for Aid

AU2008090693 Tirana ATA in English 0831 GMT 20 Aug 93

[Text] Tirana, August 20 (ATA)—In a meeting with the head of department on former Yugoslavia, Francoise Bellone, in Geneva at the International Red Cross seat, the representatives from Kosova demanded the opening of a humanitarian air corridor for sending aid to Kosova.

Mr. Bellone said that the International Red Cross is aware of the present situation of the Kosovar population, because its representation is active there and promised concrete actions regarding this demand.

The situation of the Albanian people of Kosova, who are now under a double blockade (by the international community as part of Serbia and Serbia, itself as an occupying force), appears to deteriorate further following the Macedonian government's decision about the crossing of Kosova's border with Macedonia with passports.